

# Sywell Class Spring Curriculum Newsletter

We hope you enjoyed Christmas with families and the children all had a well-deserved rest. The children have come back ready to learn and ready for the new term ahead.

We will also be continuing to practise our Mindfulness techniques and using these to support us.

## School Values

This term our School Values focus will be on Kindness and Responsibility, thinking about taking responsibility for our learning and understanding how our actions have effects for ourselves and others. We will continue to work on our attitudes to learning, focussing on having the confidence to tackle challenges.

## Home Learning and Reading

Alongside our Home Learning sheets, the children will also be getting reading books and key words. Any work you do on these really supports children to develop confidence and fluency, and we thank you for the support you have already given.

We will continue to share the Home Learning as part of Show and Tell. We would also like to share some more of the parents' views on the sheets given at the curriculum talk. If you need more sheets, please let us know.

## Reading

Reading is the main focus of parental support in Reception. You will receive key words on card; these are the most frequently used words in reading and writing. Some of these words can be sounded out using phonics and some are tricky words that need to be learnt by sight. You can practise these in any way that works for you and your child, e.g. by reading the cards, spelling them with magnetic letters, finding them in texts etc. We ask that you record any work that you do at home in the planners, whether that is reading or work on key words or phonics.

## PE Kit

Children need their PE kits in school all the time, and we ask that they still have a spare set of underwear, especially socks or tights. Most need for spare clothes comes not from 'accidents' but from the all too tempting puddles in the playground!

## Dates

Friends and Family Friday

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019 2:45-3:25pm

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> / Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 3:40-6:00pm

Stay and Play

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 8:55-10:00am

## Extra Information

The weather is still very changeable and we encourage children to dress appropriately, for whatever the weather may bring. It is helpful for the children if they have hat and gloves in school. These can stay in their drawers if they are not needed at break.

## Communication and Language

Using talk to organise, sequence & clarify thinking, ideas, feelings & events. Introducing a storyline or narrative into their play.  
Answer 'how' and 'why' questions.  
Follow instructions involving a 2-part sequence.

## Physical Development

Developing Kinetic Letters, using this to form letters correctly.  
Continuing to develop fine motor to control tools such as hole-punches and scissors.  
Using simple PE equipment and develop whole body control through balancing and rolling.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Working at an activity for an extended period of time.  
Negotiating activities and understanding that other children may have different views to theirs.  
Talking about how they and others show feelings.

**British Values: Tolerance of Faiths**  
- Chinese New Year / Christian & Hindu Weddings  
**Individual Liberty** - understanding consequence to behaviours

Spring 1  
Homes  
Spring 2  
Toys

## Literacy

Reading key words and using them to form sentences.  
Using writing independently to express ideas and knowledge.  
Identifying and recording sounds in order in simple words.  
Enjoying a wide range of books.

## Understanding of the World

Exploring the similarities and differences between materials and extending vocabulary to describe these.  
Learning about the features of homes and those of homes around the world. Exploring toys from the past and present.  
Learning about celebrations in different faiths including Hindu and Christian weddings.

## Mathematics

Counting, ordering and recording with numbers from 10-20,  
Counting on and back from any given number to 10.  
Using the language of addition and subtraction as part of practical activities.  
Using comparative language such as bigger / smaller / longer / taller / shorter.

## Expressive Arts and Design

Collaboratively playing in a fairy tale forest and castle, acting out storylines.  
Exploring different media to represent ideas, thoughts and feelings.  
Using shapes to make representations of objects such as houses or faces.

## Characteristics of Learning

Seeking challenge.  
Showing a 'can do' attitude.  
Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time.  
Persisting with activity when challenges occur.  
Making links & noticing patterns in their experience.

Thank you and please come and speak to us if you have any questions,

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