

Waterhouses CE Primary Academy

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11th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to this new year at Waterhouses Foundation Stage.

This term our theme will be 'World of Toys and Weather'. We will be thinking about the different toys we have had for Christmas and if they use ICT to work. We will also be comparing the different types of weather we experience in our lives. We will be sharing a variety of texts both fiction and non-fiction linked with these themes and learning rhymes and action songs about toys and weather.

The main texts that the children will be sharing are:

'How to Catch a Star', 'Lost and Found' and 'The Way back Home', all by Oliver Jeffers; 'Penguin Small' by Mick Inkpen; 'The Snowman' by Raymond Briggs; and 'How big is a Million' by Anna Milbourne which we will be sharing linked with our maths learning and short stories linked with toys.

The teaching staff in the Ladybird class are hoping for some snow which will enable the children to take part in some exciting science experiments and explore a variety of creative art activities.

During Literacy learning the Reception children will be continuing with daily phonics learning from Phase three of Letters and Sounds and Phase one listening activities. The children will continue to use their phonic knowledge to decode simple words and learn reading strategies to support their word reading and comprehension skills. There will also be a focus on rhyme and alliteration. The children will continue to learn how to orally segment words and write them. They will also practise their handwriting of single letters and write sentences with a capital letter, finger spaces and full stops.

Nursery children will continue to access Phase one of Letters and Sounds and will begin to look at the letters and sounds from the alphabet (phase two of Letters and Sounds). All children will practise writing their names daily.

In our maths learning Nursery children will be singing counting songs and rhymes which will help to develop their understanding of numbers, such as 'Five Little Snowmen'. They will play games which relate to addition and subtraction, use number vocabulary such as number names one - twenty, more than, fewer than and how many. They will find hidden numbers and count objects ensuring the children are counting 1 object at a time. Nursery children will be challenged with mathematical questions like: if 1 more frog jumps into the pool how many frogs will there be altogether? They will be encouraged to record making marks and symbols to represent number eg: 4 dots = 4 etc.

Nursery children will be thinking about 2D shapes and Reception children will be looking at simple 3D shapes.

Question • Explore • Give • Succeed

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Reception children will be recognising numbers and counting to 20 and above from any given starting number and down from 20/ 30 and above. We will be learning to count in 2's to 20 and in 10's to 100. Reception children will be placing numbers in order and saying which numbers are 1 / 2 more or less.

We will be using objects to add and subtract and count on and back to find the answer. Your children will be learning addition facts and number bonds to 5 / 10.

Reception children will be looking at Patterns, weight, time and simple money.

All children will practise forming their numbers correctly and Reception children will need to practise their 'Under the Sea' targets at home.

In RE we will be thinking about the text 'Puddles Lends a Paw'. This story is about people who help others and we will be thinking about who helps us both at school and at home. We will hear stories from the Bible about helping others e.g. 'The Good Samaritan' and 'Jesus Feeds the 5,000'.

We will be following our school values which include respecting our friends and the adults around us, looking after our environment, and this term's focus will be 'Trust'.

We will continue to have circle time activities where we will focus on our speaking and listening skills. We will model how to talk in full sentences and use tenses. We will also have a large focus on taking turns and how to lose gracefully! This half term we will also focus on how to handle situations and negotiate with others.

Reception children will begin swimming after February half term (letter to follow) and will need their PE kits in school on a Thursday as they will start Gymnastics during their P.E. sessions.

Tuesday 8th, Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th January 2019

In our learning this term we will be thinking about technology and what we use in the home and at school that uses ICT e.g. batteries or remote control toys. During the next few days your child is able to bring into school a toy that they have had for Christmas or ones that they play with at home that use ICT and show their toys to their friends explaining how they work (please do not send in any iPads or expensive electronic devices with you child into school).

JUST A REMINDER THAT ALL UNIFORM MUST BE CLEARLY LABELLED

This includes things like socks, pants, vests, shoes, hats and gloves!! If everything is named, we will save a huge amount of time that is wasted when searching for your child's lost clothing.

Hair: We would like to request that all long hair is put up for school in an effort to help prevent the outbreaks of head lice which are so common.

Jewellery: Children should not wear any jewellery to school.

Finally, please could we remind you to let us know if your child will be collected from school by someone other than the person who normally collects them.

If you are wondering what kind of activities to do at home to help your child's learning here are some ideas.

Writing sounds

Adult say a sound and child to write it

Name writing

I Spy

Letter formations

Adding small numbers together

Taking away

Counting up to ten

matching numerals with objects

Missing number washing line game- hang up numbers, child to close eyes and adult to take a number away- what is missing?

Number Splat (Online game)

Learning the alphabet

Coin recognition

Shape recognition

Writing simple words

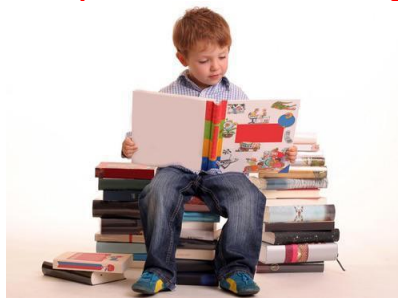
Useful information for parents to know....



Milk and fruit - Each morning the children receive a drink of milk. The government provide 1/3 of a pint free for each child each day until they are 5 years old. Children also receive a free piece of fruit - if you would like your child to have toast the cost this term has been reduced to 20p a slice.

During the afternoon each day we also have a fruit or snack.

Reception: Home Learning



Reading is our key homework focus.

Please read with your child on a regular basis (reading books are sent home twice a week). Please write a comment in their home-school link book.

As well as reading your child's school reading books with them also spend time with your child sharing favourite rhymes and stories - if you don't have access to many stories at home why not join the local Library?

High Frequency Words and Sounds - In addition to reading books we also send home words and sounds. Some of them will be on key rings and you can help your child to blend and sound out these words and practise their sounds. Other key words will be recorded in their Phonic home learning books for them to read and write. When the children knows all of these words they will be able to read and write simple sentences much more quickly and more fluently meaning they will gain more confidence and pleasure from reading and writing.

Please also complete the phonics home learning and practise your child's 'Under the Sea' targets regularly at home. If you have any concerns please speak to one of the EYFS team.

Thank you for all your continued support; it really makes a difference to your child's learning.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hulme, Mrs Bradbury, Miss Hall and Ms Fowler