

Dear Parents & Carers

Happy New Year everyone! I trust that you all had a relaxing holiday. The children certainly seem well and fully recharged! It has been lovely welcoming you all back. The children have been bursting with stories to tell too! We have also had two new children join nursery who have already settled in very well. The theme for the first half of this term will be 'winter'. As well as our over-arching theme, we are guided by the children's own interests. Throughout the term, we will continue to share your child's learning on their class Dojo portfolio.

Important dates for your diaries:

Chinese New Year 22nd January 2023

Shrove Tuesday 21st February 2023



Communication, Language and Literacy

Our Talk 4 Writing focus this term will be short poems and information writing. The main text we will be using is: 'Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?' By Bill Martin.

We will be reading a range of other texts that explore seasonal changes, namely, 'One Snowy Night', 'The Gruffalo's Child' and 'Snow and Ice'. We will be developing our speaking and listening skills by re-telling stories and learning traditional Nursery Rhymes.

Daily Phase 1 phonics will take place alongside Little Wandle's letters and sounds early reading provision.



Home Learning

Please support your child by practising the following:

Putting on/taking off own coat and shoes

Sharing/turn-taking in games

Balancing and hopping on one foot

Using a tripod grip when holding a pencil (crocodile snap video on Youtube)

Listen to stories and answer questions about them

In Maths

Throughout daily practical activities, the children will continue to develop fast recognition of counting up to 5 objects, without having to count them individually. We will use the language of less than and more than when adding and taking away amounts. The children will learn the cardinal principle and know that the last number counted is the total amount. We will explore and name 2D shapes and talk about their properties.

Spring 1

Winter

Understanding the World

With the seasonal changes that the cold weather brings, children will be able to talk about and observe using first hand experiences; ice, frost and hopefully snow. We will learn about the wintry weather and know how to dress to keep warm. We will also look at animals that live in cold places, namely the Arctic and understand how their bodies adapt to living in cold climates.

Chinese New Year and Shrove Tuesday will also be celebrated with food, role play and dancing.



Physical Development

We will continue to strengthen the children's gross motor movements through dance and the daily mile and our focus in PE will be working on balancing and hopping skills. We will also develop the children's fine motor skills through a variety of finger gym activities, mark making and the use of one handed tools.

Personal, Social and Emotional

We will be focusing on having a positive attitude and for the children to talk about themselves confidently in front of others. Magical manners will be revisited too! We will continue to encourage turn taking and sharing and being aware of others' feelings too. The children will continue to be increasingly independent in meeting their own personal care needs.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will continue to learn new songs and move rhythmically to music. The children will perform a 'Dragon Dance' with fabrics to traditional Chinese music, and play the glockenspiels too.

When using the creative workshop, we will develop our own ideas and use resources with increasing control to design an igloo.

We will learn how to mix the ingredients and make playdough.