



Dear Parents,

**HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

Many thanks for all your Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes.

There follows a brief outline of what we shall be covering as we continue to work towards the Early Learning Goals.

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** – We shall be using the Cambridge Personal Development Program to investigate 'Citizenship'. We shall consider 'Identities and Diversities' and 'Me and My World'.

**Literacy** – we shall be continuing with the Letters and Sounds program of study for phonics. We will be reviewing all the sounds we have learnt so far and learning new ones, practising reading and writing high frequency and tricky words, practising segmenting for spelling and blending for reading. We will be doing a variety of different types of writing to practise our writing skills, using non-fiction, stories and poems about our themes (Winter, Snow, Ice and Dark nights, Food and Cooking, Chinese New Year, Dragons, Dinosaurs and Spring) to inspire us. We will be concentrating on putting capital letters at the start of sentences and full-stops at the end, also making sure we leave finger-spaces between words. We will be practising our listening skills, and responding to questions and instructions. We will be doing guided reading (every week) in small groups to develop reading skills and strategies. We would be grateful if you could read with your children at home and sign their reading record books so that we know to change their book.

**Mathematics** – we shall be:

Reciting numbers to 100, counting back from at least 20 to zero, ordering numerals to at least 20 and counting up to 20 objects.

Ordinal numbers, estimating quantities, counting actions and sounds.

Sorting and describing 2D shapes, symmetry, naming rectangles, squares, circles and triangles, sorting other objects using given criteria.

Adding 1 or 2 to any number and reading the corresponding addition.

Continuing a repeating pattern with three colours/shapes/objects and symmetrical patterns.

Finding different ways to partition sets of ten objects and read the corresponding addition.

Early subtraction

Find one more and two more than any number to 20.

Compare two weights using direct comparison; use language of heavier and lighter and use uniform non-standard units to measure weights up to 10 units.

Recognise cube, cuboid and sphere and sort 3D shapes according to whether they roll or not, stack or not.

Recognise 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins and know the value of each and solve practical problems involving counting or role play.

Know how key times of day (hours only) are shown on the clock, analogue and digital and begin to know months of the year, including important months, e.g. birthday, celebrated festivals.

**Understanding of the World** – we will be looking at the changes in the seasons in topics on Winter and Spring. We will be following a theme called Winter, Snow, Ice and Dark Nights. Then we will be looking at Food and Cooking (using our senses to explore different foods; observe the changes that take place when ingredients are mixed and cooked), Dinosaurs (sorting and classifying dinosaurs) and Spring (looking at the changes that are taking place in the weather, plants and animals). We will be carrying out a variety of science and creative activities based on our themes.

We will be using a variety of programmes on the computer and programmable toys to support our learning. We shall also be using appropriate websites to research our topics. We will be learning about online safety.

In R.E. we will be looking at Celebrations and Special Times/Stories. We will be finding out about the celebration of the Chinese New Year and Easter (Why do Christians put a cross in and Easter garden?

UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIANITY: Salvation).

**Physical Development** – we will be doing PE on Tuesdays and Fridays. We will also be using our outside area to ride the bikes, build assault courses and practice our balancing, throwing and catching skills.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD HAS THEIR PE KIT IN SCHOOL ON THESE DAYS WITH ALL ITEMS NAMED AND EAR-RINGS REMOVED.**

**Expressive Art and Design** – we will be using a variety of media to produce pictures and paintings, using dough and junk for making models. We will be experimenting with mixing paints using just primary colours. We will be exploring the sounds different instruments make, copying simple rhythms and singing lots of songs related to our themes.

If anyone has any cardboard boxes (cereal boxes and smaller) that we could use in school for model making we would be very grateful.

Mrs. Hankins

Class Teacher