



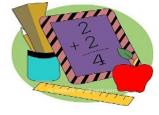
# Plains Farm Academy Nursery Newsletter



## Communication, Language and Literacy

On a morning the children will be supported with daily name writing practice on whiteboards where they will use their name card to support them with correct letter formation. They will also be participating in daily key group sessions where they develop vocabulary and knowledge relating to the current topic. They are encouraged to ask questions and take turns in this group. All children will take part in discrete phonics activities on a daily basis which include listening sound walks, rhyming, story time, RWI phonics and reading the Core Book. Core Book is a daily activity which consists of re-reading the same book throughout the week in order for the children to gain knowledge and understanding of the story line. It is hoped that by the end of the week, the children are able to read the book alongside the adult.

## Mathematics



We will be completing lots of practical activities related to numbers in which children will have the opportunity to count objects, recognise numerals and shapes. We will sing many number rhymes and songs to allow children to understand the order that numbers come in. Children will be encouraged to count aloud, saying the numbers in the correct order from 1-10. They will practise counting items by moving them and saying the correct numbers. We will focus on numbers that may be familiar to children e.g. their age or a number on their door and we will begin to recognise and identify these numbers.

Children will be taught the names of 2D shapes and they will complete practical activities with them e.g. making pictures and arrangements. Most of these activities will be carried out through continuous provision (learning through play).



## Understanding the World



We have a 'Natural side' within the Nursery outdoor area where the children are able to explore living and natural objects using tweezers, bug boxes and magnifying glasses. We will be investigating many natural objects and going for walks around our school grounds to observe changes to the environment and explore living things. We have a range of sensory activities where children are encouraged to explore and discuss the natural materials they have found and explain what they feel like. We will be following the children's interests closely to move forward with our new topic 'All things magical' where the children will be looking at local and international castle structures, who may live in castles and mystical creatures. The topic will be closely linked to various traditional tales such as Jack and the beanstalk.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development



In Nursery, we continually focus on developing children's personal, social and emotional skills. We do this through supporting with making friends, following rules and building confidence. The children are encouraged to form relationships with each other and be able to share and co-operate in the classroom. We learn about recognising and respecting the feelings and beliefs of ourselves and each other and how to deal with them effectively. We have just introduced a new behaviour system in Nursery, where the children are striving to be placed into a 'pot of gold' which allows them to receive a treat or sticker. The children learn what is acceptable and 'green' behaviour, but what is also unacceptable and what the consequences would be.



## Physical Development



The children have access to the outdoor area everyday in which they can use bikes, scooters and other wheeled toys. Children also have the access to a larger space which includes a tree house climbing frame to support with the development of large gross motor skills. During daily activities children are encouraged to use various tools such as scissors, dough cutters, and cooking equipment whilst in the classroom to support the development of their fine motor skills.

Children are encouraged at snack time to access a range of fruit such as strawberries, bananas, apples and pears and a carton of milk, they are reminded of why we eat healthy and what physical activity can do to our body.



## Expressive Arts and Design



Children have the opportunity to join in with a mixture of music and art activities on a daily basis linked to the topic. We will listen to different types of music and move to them imaginatively. We will create creatures, crowns, castles and design dresses using a range of media including paint, pencils and collage materials and junk modelling. We encourage children to access creative materials independently and to create things using their imagination.

Children are also encouraged to use their imagination during role play and story telling. The role play area will change according to the children's interests, this is going to be a **castle** to fit with our **All Things Magical** topic.

## HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

- Please read as much as you can with your child. Share a range of stories with them and help them develop a love of books. Reading with your child helps develop so many vital skills needed to become a good reader and writer.
- Sing nursery rhymes and number songs with your child to encourage their learning and making their learning fun!
- Count up to 20 with your child during everyday situations e.g. Setting the table 'How many plates do we need?' Counting the stairs in the house.
- Work on developing your child's letter formation for their first and second name.
- Point out numbers in the environment e.g. On house doors, on car number plates etc. We are working heavily on numbers to 10.
- Share what your child does at home with the staff so we can get a full picture of their interests and ability.
- Please ensure all uniform is labelled with your child's name.
- Please ensure your child has fresh water in their bottle daily.
- If you have any concerns at all about your child please speak to a member of staff as soon as possible.