Hedgehogs Nursery Class

Spring 2022 Newsletter

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| **Communication & Language****thought_bubble[1]** | Our topic this term is, ‘Whatever the Weather’ and within this topic we hope to incorporate the interests of the children as well as the major festivals and celebrations, such as Chinese New Year, Mother’s Day and Easter. We will be looking closely at the changing seasons; during Winter we will be learning about Artic animals and during Spring we will be focusing on growth and change. Our planning has been designed to be as flexible as possible in order to respond to the children’s changing needs and interests.The children will be joining in and retelling traditional stories and listening to a range of rhymes with increasing attention and recall. To help your child at home you could:* Share stories at home with your child and encourage them to join in with repeated refrains.
* Ask questions about the stories you are reading and encourage them to predict what might happen next.
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| **Physical Development**Description: C:\Users\Riley.S\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\UHWWETHA\MP900424372[1].jpg | This term we will be continuing to develop fine motor skills by threading, using scissors and play dough. We will be encouraging the children to put on coats, hats and gloves by themselves and to fasten coats. We will be moving freely in a variety of ways, both inside and outside. We will be listening to music and moving in response to music. To help your child at home, you could:* Encourage your child to put on their own coats and fasten them up.
* Help with fine motor skills by, building with LEGO and using play dough.
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| **Personal, Social & Emotional Development**Description: C:\Users\Riley.S\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\T54E8BE6\MC900433862[1].png |

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| During the Spring term, the children will be showing increasing independence and will be starting to do things by themselves. They will also be encouraged to extend friendship circles and show flexibility when experiencing different events and changes in routine.To help your child at home, you could:* Help them to be as independent as possible at home by allowing them to complete small tasks around the home.
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| **Literacy**  | During the first half term we will read a range of traditional tales, starting with ‘Goldilocks and the three Bears’. In the second half term we will look at books by different authors and non-fiction texts about plants and animals as we prepare for Spring time. To help your child at home you could:* Read books or comics together to help your child develop a love for reading.
* Point out print and signs in the environment, e.g. Morrisons, Aldi or McDonalds.
* Encourage painting, drawing and mark making.
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| **Mathematics** Description: C:\Users\Riley.S\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\E7NMBIK7\MC900286276[1].wmf | We will be learning to count carefully and accurately to 10 and beyond. We will be learning to Subitise one, two and three objects (without counting). We will be using and exploring 2D and 3D shapes by making shape pictures and using the construction area to build and create.To help your child at home, you could:* Count daily with your child and talk to them about the different numbers you see in the environment, e.g. door numbers, numbers on bus stops.
* Point out different shapes you see in the home.
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| **Understanding the World** Description: C:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\CAGCAT10\j0305257.wmf | This term we will be talking about significant events in the children’s lives, such as birthdays and gain an awareness of the cultures and beliefs of others, e.g. Chinese New Year. The children will be looking at scientific concepts, such as ice melting, shadows and rainbows. They will be also using the Interactive Whiteboard to complete simple ICT programmes.To help your child at home, you could:* Talk to them about the change in weather and explore the local environment, looking carefully at the changes that happen this season.
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| **Expressive Arts & Design** Description: C:\Users\Riley.S\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\0QU0TVRJ\MC900441754[1].png | This term we will be exploring different ways to use paint, e.g. painting on ice and painting using sticks and other natural resources. We will also be engaging in imaginative play, including our indoor construction area and our ‘Winter Wonderland’ small world area.To help your child at home, you could:* Engage in some imaginative play with your child and encourage them to make up games.
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**Further Information:**

The Nursery team consists of Mrs Hillyer - Hedgehog Class Teacher and Mrs King - Nursery Teaching Assistant. Please feel free to talk to any of the staff if there is ever anything you want to know – we’re here to help!

**Clothing** – Please remember to send in labelled weather/waterproof clothes to go over school clothing for outdoor play in the cold and wet (waterproof all in one suits or trousers/dungarees and coats are fantastic or hooded coats, over trousers and wellington boots in a waterproof bag). If your child has the occasional ‘accident’ it is always a good idea to pack a change of clothes anyway so that they can get themselves changed if necessary. These can be left on their pegs for if/when needed. Your child may very well get dirty at school – this is a sign that they have been learning and having fun, so please don’t worry!

**Water bottles** – please make sure your child brings in a bottle of water to school every day so that they can have a drink whenever they wish to. Please only fill these with **plain water** unless your child has a medical condition and you have made alternative arrangements with Mrs Kelly.

**PE** – PE will take place on a Fridays unless informed otherwise. Please send your child into school on a Friday morning dressed in their PE kit ready to start their lesson first thing. This year children will remain in their PE Kit throughout the session. Thank you in advance for clearly naming every item so we can return clothes to the right children if they get lost.

**Reading** – We teach the children the skills that underpin later phonics work. This is early or pre-reading. We encourage children to listen very carefully to sounds in the environment. We offer opportunities for them to listen to the sounds that they can make with their bodies, such as clapping and stamping. We listen to the sounds made by instruments and by their voices. We learn about sounds that are the same and about rhyming words. Above all, we encourage children to learn to love books, stories and rhymes and to play with language.

Please do send in any children’s comics or magazines that you have at home instead of recycling them so that children can read them in our ‘Greatest Reading Area’.

**Nursery Fund** – thank you so much to everyone who has remembered to pay their Nursery Fund money already, a **weekly £1.50 donation** can be given to the class teacher each Monday morning – or if you would prefer you can pay in advance for the whole half term at a time. This money will be used to ensure that we can provide the best opportunities and activities for your child in Nursery and keep resources topped up once original stocks are used up. We use a lot more arts and crafts materials in the early years than in any other year group because the children take charge of their own learning and are encouraged to self-resource, so they need lots of choices and of course also like to take home what they have made! Every donation is very gratefully received and appreciated.

Many Thanks

Mrs Hillyer

Nursery Class Teacher