



## Spring 2018

- Our Library days will continue to be Tuesday for Burleigh, Wednesday for Dairycoates and Friday for Stoneferry. Please make sure that the library book is returned each week in your child's book bag.
- Children will have one PE lesson each week on a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday morning. Your child will need a white t-shirt, black shorts and their sandshoes for this session, which should be left in their PE bag at school.
- Most of our other daily routines are explained on the information sheet that you received last term but please find below information about our curriculum for this term which will be based around the topics of **Bears** (including a trip to The Build a Bear Workshop), **Chinese New Year**, **Imaginary Worlds** and **Winter**.

Planning is based on the principles and requirements of the Practice Guidance for the Early Years Foundation Stage, Early Learning Goals for the Early Years Foundation Stage and the locally agreed syllabus for Religious Education.

### **There are seven areas of learning in the Foundation Stage.**

#### **Personal, Social and Emotional Education**

Throughout the term, children will be taking part in a variety of activities and games to encourage sharing, taking turns and team work. They will be encouraged to develop independence, self-confidence and self-awareness as we continue to work on our daily routines (eg changing outdoor shoes for sandshoes, self registering, changing for PE lessons, tidying up etc). We also seek to enable the children to form good relationships within the setting, to manage their feelings and behaviour and to think about how their actions affect others as they interact, choose activities and play games with their peers.

#### **Communication and Language**

One focus of this teaching will be on listening carefully and maintaining attention as they listen to stories, rhymes, instructions etc. Circle Times will focus on the vital skills of listening to each other and being aware that they must not interrupt when someone else is speaking. We will gauge their understanding of language as we see how they respond to instructions and directions as the children take part in fun activities related to our topics. We will aim to develop their speaking skills, as we encourage the children to use more complex sentences with a range of tenses, to extend their vocabulary and to question why things happen and how things work. They will also have lots of opportunities to extend their speaking and listening skills in the role-play areas this term – The Home Corner, Mr Bear's house, The Bears' Cave, a Chinese Restaurant and a Desert Island.

#### **Physical Development**

The children will be encouraged to take part in lots of activities requiring hand-eye co-ordination to develop their fine motor skills, including a weekly Hand Gym Challenge. These will include the use of mark-making equipment such as paints, water, pencils, crayons etc. A correct grip on pencils and pens will be encouraged. The children will continue to practise cutting skills and be taught that our equipment and tools have to be used safely.

We will provide lots of opportunities to build and play with various construction toys and 'small world' activities.

Children will have access to a range of small and large equipment (e.g. balls, hoops) to develop throwing, catching, retrieving and kicking skills and will continue to use the Adventure Playground and other outdoor equipment to practise climbing and balancing skills and improve gross motor skills.

There will be some opportunities for PE time in the Hall where they will develop skills such as balancing, jumping and stretching as well as using their imagination in dance activities.

## **Literacy**

Throughout the year the children are undertaking work covering all aspects of Literacy.

Reading skills will continue to be taught using the Oxford Reading Tree scheme, combining the use of story CDs, the reading of 'Big Books' and character and word recognition using flashcards. They will be encouraged to develop an interest in reading through looking at a variety of books with the teacher. Books will be chosen to represent non-fiction as well as traditional stories and stories from different cultures. The children will begin to learn to use terms about books correctly, such as 'front cover', 'beginning', 'end', 'page', 'line', 'word', 'letter' and 'title'

Phonics planning is based on the National Strategy document 'Letters and Sounds'. The children will be revising Phase 2 sounds and continuing to focus on Phase 3 sounds using the Jolly Phonics scheme and its multi-sensory approach.

Following our school policy of joined writing we will continue to practise cursive letter formation with leading strokes and 'flicks' in order to join letters. A correct pencil grip will be encouraged and the children will practise writing their name regularly. They will be encouraged to segment the sounds in simple words (cvc words) in order to write them down - and also to attempt to write more complex words using their phonic knowledge. They will learn how to write some high frequency words from memory with a view to being able to write simple sentences.

## **Maths**

Through games, rhymes and practical activities, the children will carry on working on recognition of numbers, counting, ordering numbers, counting objects reliably, estimating and checking, finding 'one more' or 'one less' than a given number, adding and subtracting with a focus on numbers 0-20, although when counting, we are aiming for the children to be able to count to 100. We will continue to teach correct formation of numbers and begin to record number sentences. We will also work with 2D 'flat' shapes and 3D 'solid' shapes, teaching correct names and mathematical terms to describe them. The children will also develop their knowledge of pattern, position and direction. They will use everyday language related to money and time and learn to order the days of the week and months of the year – also learning the date of their birthday.

## **Understanding the World**

Children are encouraged to remember and talk about significant and special times or events in their own experience eg family birthdays, Mother's Day and Easter.

They will also learn that children from other cultures have different experiences as we learn about Chinese New Year.

The RE this term provides the opportunity for the children to learn about people who are special to them.

They will also hear stories about 'special people' from the Bible and consider their special qualities. At Easter time we will learn about Palm Sunday, The Last Supper, Good Friday and what happened on Easter Sunday.

The constant availability of IT equipment will develop keyboard, mouse and button control through interactive and fun activities on the interactive whiteboard, computers, CD players and iPads.

## **Expressive Art and Design**

Children will have access to painting, collage and model-making materials at most times throughout the term for independent and creative 2D and 3D work. They will also have times of 'guided' creative work based around our themes as they work with an adult and also time to investigate a range of creative techniques such as mixing colours, marbling and different painting methods.

The children will also be encouraged to engage in music making, copying simple rhythms and making up their own, using instruments to make a range of sounds – eg: loud, soft etc. Using our music scheme, Charanga, they will have times of class singing when they will learn simple songs from memory and they will also have the opportunity to move in time to music and talk about how it makes them feel.

In the role-play areas mentioned above, the children will be able to mimic their own life experiences and play alongside and interact with other children involved in the same 'game'. They will also be encouraged to play co-operatively as they make up stories and act out the roles of different characters.

*Thank you for taking time to read this information. We're in for another busy term!*

*Please remember, we are always available if you have any questions or concerns. **After** school, at 3.30pm is easier for us, unless it is urgent.*