

Bumble Bees News

Teacher: Mrs Nicola Keating

Nursery Nurse: Mrs Michaela Simpson

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Gillian Stileman, Mr Andrew Young

Bilingual Teaching Assistant: Mrs Shanta Mazumdar

Dear Parents,

We wish you all a very happy New Year and hope that the children enjoyed the holidays. I am really excited to be joining the school and I look forward to getting to know all of you and your children this term.

A very big welcome to all of our new children! We really enjoyed coming to meet you at home last week and the photos we took of you are up in the classroom to see. For the first few weeks, we will be doing lots of activities to support the children with settling into the Nursery routine and I am sure we will have lots of fun learning together.

This half term, Nursery will be looking at our topic on

Toys

We will be learning about very old toys, how toys work and what they are made from. In a few weeks' time, we will ask the children to bring in and talk about a favourite toy. We will also have a go at making our own toy in our Nursery 'Toy Work Shop'.

Here is some important information for you:

- Uniform: this is the first year that Nursery children are wearing school uniform. Please ask us for the uniform list if you are unsure of what is needed.
- Spare clothes: please hang a bag of spare clothes on your child's peg (it doesn't have to be uniform) so that we can change clothes if accidents happen or messy play gets very messy!
- Snack and drink: a fruit or vegetable snack and a drink of water or milk will be available every morning during the session.
- Pick up time at 12.00: we will open the outside gate at 12.00. Parents will then need to wait outside the classroom as we call the children from the carpet and release them to you at the door. Please bear with me as this will take a few minutes while I am getting to know everyone. If you need to speak to a member of staff we will be happy to do so once we have released all the children safely to their parents – so please do come in and wait for a few minutes. The outside gate will be locked at 12.10.
- Magic moments: are a great way for you to let us know about your child's interests and achievements outside school. Please help yourself to them from the pocket on the Parent Noticeboard outside the classroom. Then we can add them to your child's Learning Journal.
- Toy Museum Visit: Exciting news! To link with our topic on 'Toys' I have arranged for St Albans Toy Museum to visit Nursery on Wednesday, 8th February. The children will have the opportunity to play with and learn all about 'Old Toys'.
- Shared Reading: is every Thursday from 8.40 to 8.55. Please come in and share this lovely opportunity to read with your children. If you have other children in the school they are welcome to come along too.

During our topic on toys we will cover elements from all of the 6 areas of learning from the Foundation Stage curriculum.

Problem solving, reasoning and numeracy

- Begin to make comparisons between quantities
- Show an interest in number problems
- Show an interest in shape and space by playing with shapes or making arrangements with objects

Activities- counting, sorting and making

Communication, language and literacy

- Use language as a means of sharing feelings, experiences and thoughts
- Have some favourite stories songs and rhymes
- Listen to others in small groups

Activities – stories, songs, drawings, circle time activities - when we share our thoughts

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

- Show curiosity about the features of objects
- Investigate various construction materials
- Seek to acquire basic skills in turning on and operating some ICT equipment
- **Activities** – Using Espresso programs on the computer such as dress the teddy and sort the toys. Floating and sinking

Physical Development

- Communicate their needs for things such as food, drinks and when they are uncomfortable
- Use one handed tools and equipment
- Operate equipment by means of pushing and pulling movements

Activities – making toys, finding out how toys work

Creative Development

- Enjoy Joining in with dancing and ring games
- Imitate and create movement in response to music
- Explore and experience using a range of senses and movement

Activities – Singing, music and movement sessions, painting and drawing

Personal, Social and Emotional

- Feel safe and secure and show a sense of trust.
- Seek and delight in new experiences
- Talk freely about their home and community

Activities – circle time activities: looking after our environment/ourselves/each other and living things