



NICHOLAS HAWKSMOOR  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

*An Academy of Academic, Artistic, Athletic and Excellence*

# Spring Term Nursery Newsletter

## What can be done at home to help my child?

- Encourage independence when dressing.
- Encourage rhyming and rhythmic activities
- Share stories together, discussing the beginning, middle and end.
- Encourage writing and mark making, using a correct pencil grip.
- Spot letters, numbers and shapes in the environment.
- Count together and order numbers.

Discuss your child's learning wishes and place these on our 'Up!' house

Dear Parents

A very warm welcome back to you all after what we hope has been an enjoyable Christmas break. May we take this opportunity to congratulate all the children on such a brilliant Christmas production, we were all very proud! We are looking forward to the forthcoming term ahead and the array of exciting activities it brings.

Each week we will be working on a different theme, which will be derived through our observations of the children and through your comments on the balloon display. Our weekly activities and adult guided learning will be linked to this theme and will be shared with you on a weekly basis. Please write your child's interests on a balloon for us to use when planning.

## Subject Overviews

### Personal Social and Emotional development

Independence will be encouraged at every opportunity and we will be working with the children to ensure that they take charge of their personal organisation. This will include things like, putting on their coats, wellington boots and socks independently.

The children are now aware of the classroom behaviour system that is in place (happy sun, thinking rainbow and calming cloud) and the expectations of the Nursery. We will be continuing to reinforce this system.

### Communication and Language

We will be introducing 'show and tell' which will take place every Friday. This will be a fantastic opportunity for the children to share with a small group of children a specific picture or object that holds great significance. For example they may wish to bring in a photograph of what they did at the weekend. This will allow the children to build upon their confidence and develop vocabulary that reflects the breadth of their own experiences.

### Physical development

The children will be encouraged to write on a daily basis in a range of ways and they will be completing activities to strengthen their fine motor control such as small manipulative play.

Before we go to forest school each week, we will be spending time either practising our climbing/balancing skills on the trim trail, or learning a new skill with a ball or carrying out parachute games.

## Events

### Parents Meetings:

These will take place throughout the day during the week of the **5th March**.

### Diary dates:

**9th February** - Hearts and Flowers day, parents are welcome to attend.

**1st March**— World Book Day. Children to dress up as their favourite book character.

**26th March**— FONHS Easter Activity Session for Nursery, Reception and Year 1. See FONHS Newsletter for further information.

**29th March**—Easter Activity day (Parents welcome) Please make an Easter bonnet with your children and bring it with you on this day for our bonnet parade.

### Parent Helpers

Parent helpers will soon be starting. Please sign up via our parent helper board if you wish to come in and help out. This will be on a Friday.

We are always pleased to have visitors, If you would like to share with us your special skill, interest or job please let us know.

## Subject Overviews

### Literacy

This term we will be introducing phonics. The children will be focusing on one sound a week. They will be encouraged to recognise and learn sounds in a fun and playful way. We will also have a sound table in the nursery to which the children can add an object beginning with the focused sound. Please ensure these are named if you would like them returned.

Class stories will happen on a regular basis and the children will be encouraged to begin to understand the way stories are structured. We will also continue to focus on rhyming, retelling and talking about key features of books. At story time we will also have some focus stories. These books will be read once a week for a half term to encourage the children to take ownership of the story themselves and be able to retell the story to you at home or their friends at nursery. Please let us know if there are any stories that your children particularly enjoy reading at home.

### Maths

The children will learn and practise basic number skills; counting, ordering, recognising and representing numerals to 10 and beyond. We will encourage the children to explore numbers in all areas of the setting. You can support this by continuing to focus on numbers in your environment e.g. numbers on buses, door numbers, television channels, numbers on phones etc.

### Understanding the World

The children will be experiencing and taking part in a variety of celebrations this term. These include Valentines, Chinese New Year and Easter.

We will continue to explore the environment at forest school. Please make sure your children come prepared for any weather every Wednesday as this is Forest School day. This term we will be taking some tools and equipment with us to show the children the different things they can explore at forest school so that next term the children can explore using the skills we have taught them.

### Expressive Art and Design

Our role play area will change on a weekly basis following our themes and the children will be given the opportunity to assist with this. In this area the children will be given the opportunity to take on a variety of roles and act out narratives with their friends.

We will be creating individual and collaborative art work using a range of materials and techniques. The children will be encouraged to select the correct colour for a purpose and create simple representations of people, events and objects.

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