

## Home Learning

All Early Years children will have a library book to take home to share each week. Please comment on your child's reading at home in the reading record.

**Reception** will also have a reading book and often additional phonic activities. Please comment on your child's reading in their record book and read with your child daily.

## Reminders

Please ensure **Book Bags** are in school **every day** with their reading record and books inside. Please check your child's bag and take out any letters or pictures every night.

**Hair** must be tied back neatly.

Please ensure full **PE kit** is in school at **all times**, including trainers or plimsolls and tracksuit/jogging bottoms/sweatshirt/fleece/hoody for outdoors. All Early Years children will have a weekly PE session.

Please ensure you **name all items of clothing** (including footwear, hats, scarfs and gloves) clearly.

**Outdoor play** Now that it is very cold please ensure your child has a warm coat, hat, gloves and scarf everyday.

**Pinkie Pie** Thank you to everyone who has looked after our class owl so far. The children have really enjoyed taking part and sharing their adventures. We look forward to hearing more.



# Welcome to The Early Years Owl Spring Term 2018

Early Years Teacher : Mrs Tansley

Early Years Teaching Assistant: Mrs Chisnall,

If you ever have any worries, concerns or questions please feel free to make an appointment to see us, or if it is just a brief word then just pop in before or after school.

Thank you for our Christmas gifts and Happy New Year. A warm welcome to our new child Daniel and his parents.

Welcome back to the new half term. The children have made a wonderful start and we are very impressed with how well the children have settled into school life and are happy to explore all activities. They are becoming very independent at hanging up their coats and bags in the morning, putting on their coats at playtimes and collecting and putting away things in their own bag.

We will be continuing to encourage the children to become independent and would like the Reception children to leave their parents at the classroom door. Of course we understand there may be days when your child needs to be settled or needs a few more minutes with their parent and you will always be welcome in the classroom. If your child is in Nursery but you feel your child is ready to make this step, then we would actively encourage this.

Our aim is to make your child's learning experience exciting and enjoyable through delivering a creative and stimulating curriculum based on the skills highlighted in the Early Years Framework. Whenever possible learning will be linked to a theme or topic.

This term our topics are **Winter, Snow and Dark Nights, Dragons and Chinese New Year and Food and Cooking.**

During Communication and Language and Literacy activities our focus stories will be : **The Bear's Winter House** by John Yeoman, **The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark** by Jill Tomlinson, **Thinking about the Seasons: Winter** by Clare Collinson, **Ketchup on Your Cornflakes?** by Nick Sharratt, **The Giant Jam Sandwich** by John Vernon Lord, **Mr Wolf's Pancakes** by Jan Fearnley, **A version of The Gingerbread Man, Tell Me a Dragon** by Jackie Morris, **The Dragon Machine** by Helen Ward, **Chinese New Year (Holidays and Festivals)** by Nancy Dickmann.

The children will explore winter and dark nights, investigating stories about the season and sharing non-fiction books which give information. They will extend their vocabulary through discussion and sharing books and will write simple captions and instructions, inspired by their reading. The children will learn all about dragons in stories, and then about the place of these beasts in Chinese New Year celebrations. They will write sentences about a dragon of their own and write captions to go with New Year's banners they have made in class. The children will share their thoughts, feelings and opinions about food, cooking, a healthy diet, food hygiene and the cultural significance of food. They will understand the importance of lists, recipes and sequenced instructions. They will read and write a range of different recipes and cook tasty treats.

### **Mathematics:**

#### **Areas covered this term will be:**

Reciting numbers to 20, then 100, counting back from 20 to zero, ordering numerals to at least 20, counting up to 20 objects and counting actions and sounds, beginning to estimate quantities, adding one and two more, finding different ways to partition sets of ten objects, reading addition, early subtraction, beginning to record numbers and reading numbers to 20. Also solving practical problems involving counting or role play.

Sorting and describing 2D and 3D shapes, recognising coins and knowing the value of each, know how key times of day (hours only) are shown on the clock, and beginning to know months of the year, including important months, e.g. birthday, celebrated festivals.