



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

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## Class H Topic letter Autumn 2020

### Toys

Dear Parents,

I would like to welcome you to Class Hummingbird and hope that your children will be inspired and excited by the lessons and activities I have planned for them on our topic this term. You will find below an outline of the Autumn term where I explain all the different areas of learning. I hope you find this useful when supporting your child.

### Overview Early Years

#### *Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)*

For the children in Early Years we will help them settle into their new routines and become familiar with their peers and other adults. We teach the children to share resources, ask to join in or initiate play and develop a better understanding of their emotions.

#### *Communication and Language*

We will share stories and encourage children to make predictions and think about who the characters are, how they could be feeling and discuss the story. As the children develop their listening skills, we will support their development in speaking in small groups and whole class situations. We encourage children to express their own ideas and feelings and ask how and why questions.

#### *Physical Development*

This area is divided into gross motor skills and fine motor skills.

Fine motor skills focus on teaching the children how to hold a pencil in the tripod grip and use a range of tools such as scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery.

Gross motor skills are mostly taught during our PE lessons where children are taught a variety of skills and games to develop their balance and co-ordination.



## ***Literacy - Reading***

We will be looking at different books linked to toys. The children will start to hear and say initial sounds in words they see and hear, with fun activities to support their learning. They will learn to segment sounds in simple words and blend them. They will begin to read simple words and sentences. We will share a wealth of books so children can enjoy reading and sharing stories with others. They will see that information can be retrieved from books and computers. The children will be encouraged to use their phonetic knowledge to write simple labels, captions and sentences.

## ***Mathematics***

### ***Numbers***

We will spend the first term becoming familiar with numbers 1-10. This gives the children a deeper understanding of numbers for example one is the same as 1 apple and the value of 1p and a circle has 1 side etc. The children will be taught how to form these numbers correctly and to recognise them in different forms.

## ***Understanding the World***

### ***The world***

During these sessions, we will give the children opportunities to talk about their lives, the lives of people around them and their role in society. We start with discussing someone who they find special and why. During our Toy topic, we will look at the similarities and differences between things in the past and the present. We will look at toys that grandparents, and parents played with and how the children's toys today are similar or different. We also have a lesson planned to test which materials would be suitable for different toys.

## ***Expressive Arts and Design***

We will have lots of opportunities to have fun experimenting with colours, medium and techniques. We will encourage children to use the role play area using props and materials to act out stories we have shared and make up their own stories. This term we have a Toy Shop and a Toy Hospital!

## **Class Routines**

Reading is a vital part of education and we would ask that an adult hears your child read regularly at home and makes a note in the reading diary. In Early Years, we are developing our phonological awareness learning to decode, segment and blend sounds to enable us to read words. It is equally important to discuss the pictures and the text with your child as well as 'hear' them read, to develop their comprehension skills.



The Early Years children will spend the first few weeks of school getting to know our routines, expectations and will be assessed. Once the children have been assessed you will receive a reading book. We also hope to run an online meeting to explain our reading system. We suggest that you spend one night reading their book and another on their Phase 2 sound and tricky words card. Our reading books will be cleaned once they are returned and quarantined for 24 to 72 hours. Your child will receive a house point for reading at least three times a week. They will also be given an Oxford Reading Tree book on a Monday and a Bug Club book on a Thursday. Children need to bring in their diary, book and Phase card everyday.

### **Bug Club**

Your child will be assigned a Bug Club Username and Password. On here there will be books allocated to your child to read. These will be changed once your child has completed all the books allocated.

We may ask the children to complete tasks on the Mathletics websites (Username and Password will be given) that will help consolidate or extend your child's learning from in the classroom. We will cover the area of Maths in class first then set the tasks to do at home. Your child will be set activities on Mathletics fortnightly but please feel free to do any other activities your child wishes to attempt.

PE will be on a Monday afternoon, and a Wednesday morning. We encourage your child to get ready for the lesson to develop their independence. Therefore, on these days could you avoid clothing which your child may find tricky as this will help. We do go outside in most weather conditions so please ensure your child has a tracksuit and spare tights or socks in their PE bag for when the weather starts to turn. Please can you also ensure any earrings are removed either before coming to school or can be removed by your child.

### **Languages**

The children will be taught French every week. They will be looking at how to say days of the week, the colours and their ages.

Let's Present will be on a Wednesday afternoon - this is part of our Speaking and Listening curriculum, and it is linked with our topic each term. Each child will be allocated a date for their presentation, where they have the opportunity to bring in something they would like to share with the rest of the class, they are about five minutes long and are linked to our topic. We will start this on the 30<sup>th</sup> September and a separate letter will follow with more information.



We encourage the children to drink regularly, from a water bottle during school time and would therefore ask you to provide a named bottle of fresh water for your child daily. Following guidance the water fountains in the school are not in use and therefore it is imperative that your child brings in their own NAMED water bottle.

### **General**

We realise there are a lot of routines for everybody to adapt to however we will endeavour to make the transition as smooth and happy as we possibly can.

If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I have class email address this is [ClassH@danburypark.essex.sch.uk](mailto:ClassH@danburypark.essex.sch.uk), this will be checked everyday between 3.30pm and 4pm. If you have any concerns regarding any special needs you can contact out Senco Mrs Trussell on [senco@danburypark.essex.sch.uk](mailto:senco@danburypark.essex.sch.uk).

### **Top Tips**

Read to your child - it is important that they can hear you read using expression in your reading, this will help them as their reading and writing develops. Listening to stories of information which is not accessible by themselves is also beneficial to their learning development, vocabulary and imagination.

Get the children to spot sounds and numbers when out and about!

I looking forward to getting to know your children over the next year and watching them grow.

Many thanks,

*Mrs Smith*

**Class Teacher**

