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Early Years Foundation Stage
Class Hummingbird Topic letter
Autumn 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Class Hummingbird!

We have an exciting term ahead of us centred around our topic of 'Toys.' On our class webpage, you will find our long-term plan, which explains all the different areas of learning and what the children will be working on this term. We hope you will find this useful when working with your child at home. We have already planned our in school "History of Toys" activity day in November and you will receive a letter later on in the term giving you all the information.

Dates for your diary

Our first assembly will be an Autumn celebration on 12th October at 2.45. Further details will follow but do put the date on your calendar as the children love to see a friendly face in the audience.

Parent consultations are Tuesday 18th October and Thursday 20th October. Appointments do fill up quickly so please ensure once you receive this form it is returned to school as soon as possible so that we can do our best to accommodate your preferred day and time. Again, more information will follow in due course.

We hope you received the letter regarding our reading meeting on Wednesday 28th September at 9am to explain our reading scheme and we would appreciate it if you are able to attend. However, if you are unavailable, we will send out the information.

As mentioned at our welcome meeting, we do our best to hold a stay and play session each term. Our first session has a phonics focus and we will hold these on Tuesday 8th 9am-9.45. We will send information out about this via Tapestry nearer the time but again if you are able to make a note in your diary for one of these dates or ask a family member to attend, the children do love sharing their learning with you.

Routines

Reading Books – will be changed every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. However, if your child would like to keep the book for longer please let us know. We suggest that you spend one night reading their book and another on their Phase card as we understand not all children are willing to sit and complete both after a long day at school (this will hopefully make more sense after the reading meeting.) We spend the first few weeks of school getting to know your child and assessing them so you will not receive a reading book until the reading meeting has taken place. Please write the date and the activity you have done in their reading dairy. This will be checked daily by an adult in the class.



PE will be on Monday afternoon in the hall and Tuesday morning will be our outdoor session. We encourage the children to get themselves ready for the lesson to develop their independence. Therefore, on these days if you could avoid clothing which your child finds tricky it will help. We do go outside in most weather conditions so please ensure your child has a tracksuit in their PE bag for when the weather starts to turn. Please ensure if your child's ears are pierced you take their earrings out on these days. We are unable to remove them and you will be called to come and take them out.

Please ensure if your child has long hair that it is tied up at all times. This is part of our uniform policy.

Let's present – this is a part of our speaking and listening curriculum and will be on a Wednesday afternoon. Each child will be allocated a date for their show and share, where they have the opportunity to bring in something they would like the rest of the class to see and hear about. This is optional for your child to take part in, so no pressure if they do not want to join in this term, however we would encourage them to have a go in the spring. We will start this on the 28th September and you will receive a separate letter with more information.

Top Tips:

Once you receive your child's phase card and reading books, try to listen to your child read as often as possible even a couple of pages will help re-inforce the sounds they learn at school.

Read to your child – it is important that they can hear expression in your reading, which will help them as their reading develops.

Listening to stories or information that they may not be able to access by themselves is also beneficial to their learning development, vocabulary and imagination.

Practise their sounds on a regular basis – in the bath, on the way to school whenever you have time. Enjoy seeing their progress and make it fun!

If you are interested in being a parent helper in class, could you please write your availability in your child's reading diary. You will then need to go to the office for further information.

We look forward to getting to know you and your child over the year!
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Smith

