



Danbury Park Community Primary School

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Early Years Foundation Stage Topic Letter Class Hummingbird Spring 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Spring Term at Danbury Park. We hope you have had a good Christmas and were able to spend some time with friends and family.

This term our topic is 'Once upon a time' and we will be sharing a variety of traditional tales with your children to develop their ability to retell and write stories. Alongside the traditional stories, we will be enjoying some modern fiction and we are looking forward to taking the children to the local theatre on Wednesday 7th February to see the Gruffalo's child.

This term we will also be returning to Danbury Country Park to look at the change from Winter to Spring and we will hold another stay and play session for you to attend, this time with a focus on maths, dates to follow. Parents evening will be on Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th February. Our book week runs from 26th February to 8th March, culminating in a dress up day and our class assembly is Friday 8th March, so as you can see, we have a very busy term ahead of us!

Curriculum Overview

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

This term we will continue to support the children in building and strengthening their relationships and encourage them to resolve minor conflicts themselves through talking about their disagreements. We will help them to understand how their actions affect others and how to be sensitive towards their friends' feelings. We will be using the zones of regulation to help the children recognise and describe their feelings.

Communication and Language

As in the previous term, we will continue to read many stories to the children, encouraging them to discuss the story, make predictions and think about the characters and how they are or could be feeling. Let's present continues this term, helping the children to develop their confidence in speaking in front of an audience.

Physical development

This term we will be checking the children are holding their pencil correctly in the tripod grip that they have been shown and forming their letters correctly. We will continue to use scissors and

paintbrushes regularly to improve their dexterity. The children have made good progress with balancing, throwing and catching this term and we will continue to develop this as we use different equipment in our PE sessions.

Literacy

Each week or fortnight we will be looking at a different book linked to our topic. The children will develop their writing skills through a range of tasks that include fiction, non-fiction and poetry. They will be encouraged to use their phonic knowledge to write words and expected to spell the tricky words from phase 2 correctly in their work. We will be ensuring they are forming their letters correctly to enable them to develop a neat and consistent handwriting style.

Maths

We will continue to be working with numbers to 10 ensuring a deep understanding of these numbers and correct formation and representation. Alongside work on number, we will be investigating the mass, capacity, length and height of objects and will complete work on time. We will move on from naming 2d shapes to 3d shapes and use them to make patterns.

Understanding the world

This term we will be looking at developing our computing skills. We will be carrying out experiments linked to the books we are reading. For example, which material would be best for the three little pigs to build their house from? We will grow our own beanstalk like Jack and design and make a gingerbread man. We will also visit the country park for our annual Easter Egg rolling activity.

Expressive arts and design

Each week we will make and draw pictures linked to the week's book. We will use different media in our art work including oil pastels and charcoal. We will also experiment with different ways of joining materials e.g. glue, staples, sewing etc.

Routines

Reading Books – Bug Club books are changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday if they have been read and this is recorded in their reading diary. Picture books are given on a Friday to enjoy together over the weekend. We suggest that you spend one night reading their book and another on their phase 3 sound and tricky word card as we understand not all children are willing to sit and complete both after a long day at school. Don't forget you can access more Bug Club books by logging into your child's online account, let us know if you need some more.

Thank you for your support with reading regularly and working on your child's phoneme card and number sheets last term. This term we will now be moving on to Phase 3 so the children will receive a new card to work on at home. If they have not completed their phase 2 card, please look at both cards at home and we will also help them with both phases in school. As well as hearing your child

read, please keep reading 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 they may not be able to access by themselves is also beneficial to their learning development.

PE will continue to be on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning. 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 are not allowed to cover or remove earrings so please remove them at home on PE days. We do go outside in most weather conditions so please ensure your child has a tracksuit, socks and trainers in their PE bag for this cold term.

Let's Present will still be on a Wednesday afternoon and we will allocate your child a slot to present as we did in the previous term.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Smith