

# Autumn Term 1 in Nursery

What will we be learning and how can you help at home?

## Beginning Nursery and Settling in.

*This term time is primarily spent supporting the children in getting used to the rules and routines in Nursery allowing them to feel confident and independent in their environment.*

- We will learn where our toys and resources belong and know to put them back where they belong before we move onto another activity. Using the phrase; choose it, use it, put it away
- We will learn when we put toys away we place them into a box not throw them
- We will learn that if we take off our coats and jumpers we must put them on our pegs to keep our cloakroom safe and tidy.
- We will learn how to handle books and how to carefully turn the pages when we read them. We will know how to put them back so that they do not get ripped

## How can I help at home?

- Encourage your child to tidy away their toys after themselves.
- When reading with your child, model how to put a book away carefully – not bending the spine
- Encourage your child to hang their coat up and put their shoes away when they get home

## Key Vocabulary

Choose it use it put it away

Hang it up

Remember to be gentle



## Listening skills

- We will listen to stories
- We will talk about the books that we have read
- We will listen to our names in the register
- We will learn to stop when we are asked to
- We will begin to develop a sense of belonging in the classroom alongside their friends, playing with one or more other children

### How can I help at home?

- Read stories with your child as often as possible. Talk to them about what is happening, how the characters feel, what they think might happen next.
- If you ask your child to do something make sure that they stop and you have your attention before you ask them to do what they need to do
- Engage in conversation at meal times, encouraging them to wait and listen to others as they talk – one idea you may choose is, can you remember one thing you did today?



### Key Vocabulary and questions

What happens next?

How do you know?

What do you enjoy?



## Being active and developing fine motor skills

- We will be developing core strength through climbing, balancing, jumping, running, hopping and many more activities
- We will be exploring patterns with chalk and long handled paintbrushes
- We will learn to pour water from one container to another
- We will learn how to use scissors
- We will have the opportunity to push cars around the vehicle area
- We will learn how to ride the trikes
- We will develop our fine motor skills using screws, nuts and bolts
- We will learn how to put our coats on and zip them up and to put on our own shoes too

### How can I help at home?

- Spend time outdoors as much as you can. Make use of the West Common, The Arboretum or local parks to explore. Allow children to take risks and explore their limits.
- Explore chalk, squeezey bottles, lids, pegs on a clothes line, playdough



### Wellies

Please ensure your child has a named pair of wellies in Nursery. We go outside in all weathers.

We also encourage keeping a puddle suit in Nursery for rainy days. Please ensure it has their name in it.

### Key Vocabulary

Run

Jump

Balance

Hop

Twist

Zip

## Fine motor skills

Developing their fine motor skills is a huge part of the children's physical development at this age. To develop strength in their fingers and hands, they must first have a good core strength, and then dexterity in their shoulder, elbow and wrist before moving to their hands.

Here are some ideas of things you can do at home to support this.

- Water painting outside with a bucket of water and a paint brush.
- Drawing, painting, colouring on a vertical surface.
- Playing with playdough to pinch, roll, twist, prod and manipulate the playdough.
- Use pegs, children's tweezers, toy pipettes to play with objects and water.
- Build with wooden blocks, Duplo, Lego, K'nex. Play jigsaws, magnetic fishing games or 'tap a shape' type games to name but a few.
- Please share your fun on Tapestry!



## Personal and Social Skills

- We will learn how to wash our hands when we have used the toilet and before we eat our food
- We will learn how to find our own snack and water bottle
- We will learn how to line up when we go for our lunch
- We will know how to feed ourselves when we eat our lunch or snack
- We will learn how to use the toilet independently
- We will learn how to wait our turn if somebody has something that we would like to play with.
- We will learn how to ask a grown up for help if we are finding something tricky.

## How can I help at home?

- Encourage your child to put on their own coat and shoes before coming to school.
- Encourage your child to wait if someone is playing with something they would like.
- Play simple games at home that encourage taking turns.
- Encourage using the toilet independently, including wiping when they have finished
- Encourage your child to ask 'help me please' if they are finding something tricky.



### Key Vocabulary

Share

wait

thank you

Please

help me

my turn/your turn

## Tuning into sounds

In term 2 the children will begin phonics – during their phonics sessions they will learn the different sounds of the alphabet – we do not read the letters in Nursery just tune into the sounds – to prepare for this we:

- Sing nursery rhymes
- Play with the musical instruments and copy different sound patterns
- Use our voices to make different sounds
- Name what we can see around us
- Talk about the sounds we can hear in our environment

What can I do to help at home?

- Sing nursery rhymes at home
- Use alliteration – as an example – when your child is in the bath – we are in the *bubbly bath*, or *I can see a tall tree*, do it for names of *family members – jumping Jack*,
- Read stories together – never underestimate the power of you reading your child a story.



## Songs, stories and mark making

### Songs and Stories

- We will read a range of stories but our main focus for this term is the story, *Monkey Puzzle* by Julia Donaldson.
- We will read stories about Nursery routines.
- We will sing simple counting songs and Nursery Rhymes
- We will learn the importance of taking care of our books

### Mark Making

- We will explore patterns using chalk on the playground
- We will explore patterns using paintbrushes and crayons
- We will use tools to make marks in playdough

### How can I help at home?

- Read stories with your child.
- Talk about the stories that you read
- Sing songs and rhymes
- Visit the library – library cards are free and Lincoln Central library often has activities on too.
- Making marks can be with anything – using fingers to draw in flour, chalking outside, paintbrushes and water on a fence are just some ideas.
- Once the children are established in Nursery we will begin *Caterpillar of the Day*, this is given to a child that has made us smile and feel proud for something they have done – maybe remembering their manners, taking a turn, sharing. They will bring home a certificate to keep and our very own *Caterpillar* and the story of the term (this is to be returned the following day for someone else then to enjoy)



## Maths

- We will learn a range of counting songs and rhymes,
- We will learn about colours and patterns, things that match and do not match.
- We will learn about shapes and sizes

### How can I help at home?

- Sing number songs with your child
- Count out utensils when laying the table for dinner
- Look at patterns all around, spotty dresses, stripey socks, brickwork on a house.

#### Key vocabulary

Colours

square

circle

triangle

big

small



### **Tapestry**

*If you have not activated your account to see all the wonderful things your child is doing at school, please speak to your child's teacher as soon as possible.*

*We also encourage you to share all of the wonderful things you are doing at home onto Tapestry. Each week we will be setting a challenge on Tapestry for you to complete and upload.*

### **Drawer String Bags**

*Please may we remind you that all spare clothing must be in a drawer string bag to stay on the children's peg in school, if you have not received one please ask at the Nursery door.*

### **All About Me Books**

*A gentle reminder to return your All about me scrapbook with photos of family and special people in your child's life, what they like to eat and play with and anything else you think we would like to know – these are then shared with the children. Again if you do not have a book let us know and we will pass one on*

### **Working together**

*We want your child's time in school to be as successful as possible. Please let us know in the mornings if there is anything that might affect your child's behaviour that day, such as a bad night's sleep.*

*We also must be informed if anyone different is collecting your child. We cannot let them go if we haven't been informed of a change. Thank you.*