



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

*Aim High*

*Never Give Up*

*Follow Your Dream*

*Lead By Example*

October 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **MAIN LEARNING THEME – Toys**

Our topic next half term is based around Toys and how they have changed over time.

The main focus for the learning during next term will be various toys, in particular teddy bears:

- Looking at illustrations such as those found in A A Milne's *Winnie The Pooh*
- Comparing old and new toys
- Placing toys along a timeline
- Planning a teddy bear's picnic
- Describing toys and the materials used
- Forces – pushes and pulls
- Toys from around the world
- Designing and making a peg doll

In order to launch this theme, we would like all children to bring in their favourite teddy bear on **3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014**. We promise that we will take good care of them!

Key vocabulary for next term: Victorian, Old, New, Timeline, Plastic, Glass, Metal, Wood, Pushes, Pulls.

### **ENGLISH**

The children are continuing to learn to read simple sounds and words through their Read Write Inc sessions. We will continue to inform you as and when your child is ready for the next group. Throughout next term, we will provide regular writing opportunities for the children, with a particular focus on the correct letter formation and neat handwriting. The children will have a variety of writing experiences linked to the topic, where they can explore their knowledge of writing labels and captions. We also do regular Guided Reading sessions with your child, where they are given an opportunity to explore and read a book in detail, giving them chance to develop their speaking and listening skills as well as a deeper understanding of the meaning in books.

### **READING**

Our thanks for your continued support with reading to and with your child at home. Each week, your child will be given 1 reading book which they can share with you at home. This will be changed weekly on either a **Monday** or **Tuesday**, however we would suggest bringing books in every day. Year 1 also have the opportunity to visit the library on these days, and learn about all the different types of books and how to use a library. They will bring home 2 library books, and these will also be changed on a Monday or Tuesday. Thank you for continuing to record your own comments in the reading log books, as this helps us to move your child's reading forward. When your child is ready for the next reading log book, we will issue this to you.

### **MATHS**

Next term, the children will be focusing on shape, space and measure and will begin to understand the following concepts:

- 2D and 3D shapes
- Patterns in shape and number
- Doubling numbers
- Telling the time
- Ordering and sequencing events
- Sorting objects by a given criteria



Your child will begin to access Assertive Mentoring for Maths, which is a programme that runs across the whole school. This will mean that on a weekly basis, your child will be in a small group to explore the skills needed to problem solve, calculate and use numbers quickly and easily.

### **PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT**

Throughout next term we will be discussing toys from a variety of periods of time, and it would be lovely for any grandparents/parents/carers to come and share their toys from childhood, or discuss how different toys are from today. Any toys that we can borrow would be lovely, and if anyone is able to come and share their experiences then the year 1 team would love to hear from you. We would particularly like to run a question and answer session about toys, and we can provide you with a date for this once we know how many willing volunteers we have.

### **HOME LEARNING**

Home learning in year 1 will consist of a weekly piece of both English and Maths skills. These will be given to the children on a Wednesday, to be handed in the following Wednesday.

The children are also invited to complete a half termly home learning project, however this is not compulsory. The theme is *Toys*. You will receive a Pow Project sheet in the first week of term with details of ideas for your child's projects. It is suggested that the children can choose project ideas that total 5 Pow points.

### **TRIPS/VISITORS**

To explore the history of toys, and the materials that toys are made from, we are hoping to visit Peterborough Museum. More details, including a date for this, will follow directly after half term.

### **PE**

PE will be covered in two one hour sessions each week, **Monday** is outdoor PE and **Friday** is indoor PE. However, we ask that the children bring in their complete kit (including plimsolls/trainers) on a Monday, and leave this at school until Friday. Children with long hair will need to have it tied back for safety reasons. Any earrings (studs only are allowed in school) will also have to be removed (**by the child**) or covered with a plaster (**which must be supplied from home**).

Your child will require the following PE kit (**Clearly named**):

- Plain white t shirt
- Black/Grey shorts
- Tracksuit for outdoor PE
- Socks
- Plimsolls/Trainers

### **SHOW AND TELL**

Show and tell will be on a Friday afternoon each week. This is a lovely speaking and listening opportunity, where children can share their experiences, and learn to talk and present to others. If the children do bring an item in to share, it is preferable that this either be related to the topic, or an exciting event/achievement.

### **HOT SCHOOL MEALS**

To remind you that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. These are provided by a contracted catering company, M & B Caterers, and our children have a choice of a hot meal or 'Funky Five'. We hope that you are happy with the lunches your children are receiving and if you have any suggestions as to how we can improve this provision, please do let the school office know.

Mrs L Burnham  
Class Teacher

Miss K Gasson  
HLTA

Mrs J Dunkley  
TA

Mrs D Reynolds  
Head Teacher

