



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

October 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

MAIN LEARNING THEME – Toys

Our topic next half term is based around Toys and how they have changed over time. The children are very excited about this topic, and have had lots of ideas already of how they would like to learn about these changes. One of our favourite ideas is holding a toy sale. The children and I have a whole host of ideas of different toys and pictures of modern and old toys that we are going to create within the first few weeks of term (which may include some sewing, but we will leave the rest as a surprise!) and we will be selling these to family members who wish to purchase them in the school hall on **Thursday 19th November 2015 at 2.30pm**. The children are then going to decide how to spend the money raised, in order to support their learning through future topics. Look out for posters and invitations made by the children; these will appear as they plan and decide what they wish to sell, as well as how much they would like to charge for each item.

The other focuses 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 **Monday 2nd November 2015**. We promise that we will take good care of them!



Please don't forget
us on the first day
back!

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 as well as creating posters and writing invitations.

READING

Our thanks for your continued support with reading to and with your child at home. Each week, your child will be given 2 reading books from Read, Write Inc which they can share with you at home (if your child is in ditties, they will receive a ditty each week). One of these will be a book they have previously read and enjoyed, and the other will be a brand new book. Please could these books remain in your child's bookbag **every day**, so that they can be changed when a new book is begun in school. Year 1 also have the opportunity to visit the library each week, and learn about all the different types of books and how to use a library. They will bring home a library book, and these will also be changed weekly. If you have any queries about your child's progress in reading, please do not hesitate to ask.

MATHS

Next term, the children will be focussing on Number, Position and Shapes and will begin to understand the following concepts:

- Using numberlines
- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- 2D and 3D shapes
- Patterns in shape and number
- Telling the time to the hour and half hour
- Using position and direction vocabulary

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.

Please note, the Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance will be at **9am on Thursday 10th December 2015**. More information regarding costumes will be sent out nearer the time.

HOME LEARNING

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

English home learning will now be based around reading words or spelling if your child is ready. There will be a separate letter after half term to explain this new system.

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 will be visiting Peterborough Museum on **Wednesday 2nd December**. If you have not yet given your permission for your child to take part, the last day for this is **Thursday 5th November**. We would also be grateful to hear from you if you would like to participate in and support this trip as a parent/carer helper.

PE

PE will be covered in two one hour sessions each week, the day for outdoor PE is weather dependent and **Tuesday** 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

In year 1 we have a growing collection of PE kit and red jumpers/cardigans that have been lost throughout the term, but cannot be returned because it is not named. Please ensure that **all** clothes worn by your child are clearly named.

HOT SCHOOL MEALS

A reminder that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal. Your child can have a hot meal option or 'funky five' packed lunch style meal. These do not need to be booked in advance.

Key dates for your diary:

- **Monday 2nd November – Bring your favourite bear to school**
- **Thursday 5th November – Please send us permission for your child to visit Peterborough Museum**
- **Thursday 19th November – Toy sale!**
- **Wednesday 2nd December – Our class trip to Peterborough Museum**
- **Thursday 10th December – Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance**

Mrs L Burnham
Class Teacher

Mrs J Dunkley
Teaching Assistant

Mrs C Fox
Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher

