



Orleans Primary School

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Orleans Nursery Newsletter - Spring Term 2

Dear Parents/Carers

This term we will be focusing on 'transport' and 'People who help us' exploring different types of occupations and how important our school and local community is. As part of this we would like to take the opportunity to invite any parents or carers that would like to come into nursery to talk about their jobs or share a linked story to the children during the week beginning Monday 20th March. Please ask if you would like further information or to sign up to a slot. We will also be observing changes in our environment as we approach spring and will be busy in the garden preparing and planting bulbs and seeds in preparation for next term. This will lead us into thinking about growth and eggs as we approach Easter.

Tapestry - We hope you are all now enjoying having access to Tapestry. Many thanks to those that have contributed with comments and photographs so far, they are great to see and have helped to strengthen home-school links and provided some great conversation starter points with the children! Please do come and speak to us either before (AM) or after (PM) the nursery sessions if you need any help or have any questions about it at all.

Mystery reader - Starting from Friday 10th we will be holding a Mystery reader story time at the end of the nursery session each Friday (11.25/3.10) - If you would like to sign up to bring in and read a story to the class look out for the sign-up sheet on the nursery notice board - please remember not to tell the children however - it needs to remain a mystery!

The nursery curriculum is divided into seven areas of learning, although they are not taught separately but link to each other.

Personal, Social and Emotional This half term we will continue to focus on working as a 'busy bee'; developing resilience as we attempt new challenges without giving up; celebrating those that 'have a go' and focusing on working as a team. We will continue to encourage the children to consider the needs of others, being kind to everyone, and sharing in our play.

Communication and language We will continue to encourage the children to be confident to speak in a group, listen to others and take turns in talking. We want to develop the children's ability to be able to follow a set of instructions through activities such as cooking. We will continue to develop the children's thinking skills and responses to questions, such as why, how, where, what would happen if... We will use circle times to develop the skill of making a choice and explaining their reasons why. At home sharing the storybook 'You Choose' would support this.



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Literacy This half term our phonics focus will be on rhyming, alliteration and making links across the initial sounds of names and objects through games within the nursery. Playing I-Spy and going on sound hunts at home would support this. We want to develop the children's ability to hear and match different sounds and to develop oral blending and segmenting of sounds in words through robot-talking - eg. "c-a-t" - 'cat'. We will continue to develop the children's fine motor and pre-writing skills through mark making using a wide variety of materials and tools along with activities such as dough, using tweezers and threading.

Mathematical development This half term we will be focusing on shape, space and measures. We will be making comparisons between longer and shorter lengths and taking note on familiar shapes in the environment. We will use scales to measure ingredients for cooking and comparisons between heavy and light objects. We will continue to develop counting skills to 10 and beyond through dice games and practical problem solving using simple addition and subtraction as we explore 'more' and 'less'.

Understanding of the world Our topic for this half term will be 'People who help us' and this will see us focusing on the occupations of others such as postal services, different types of shops and construction building. We will explore transport links and the emergency services along with our own school community. Our role play area will directly link as we will create our very own bus! We will continue to use and develop an understanding of how technology works as we play games on the Interactive Whiteboard and develop confidence in using remote controlled toys.

Physical development We will continue our weekly small hall sessions (now every Friday), building on the children's confidence and skills. Our focus will be on moving in different ways and speeds to music, developing spatial awareness and control as the children move in a larger space, starting and stopping on command. We will continue to develop the children's fine motor and pre-writing skills by encouraging them to make marks with a wide range of materials such as pens, paint, chalks, water and crayons on both large and small scales.

Creative development This half term we will focus on painting and printing techniques, encouraging the children to experiment with colours and mixing media and materials to create something new. We will be introducing new techniques such as bubble painting and using cotton buds and potato mashers for printing. In our music sessions we will be using claves and egg shakers to keep the beat, follow rhythm, and make loud and quiet sounds. We will continue to listen to different types of music during snack time and we will explore our thoughts and feelings towards these as we discuss how the music makes us feel and what we think of as we listen to it.

We hope that this overview of the half term is informative, please continue to check the school website, weekly newsletters and nursery notice board for updated information and key dates.

Please remember to keep bringing in any WOW stickers. We love reading about the children's achievements out of nursery and including them in their learning journey booklets.

Many thanks for the ongoing £5 contributions, last term we were able to include extra activities for the children such as cooking as well as buying additional resources for craft based activities. This voluntary contribution is payable via ParentPay and really helps towards buying everyday extras for the children such as play dough and cooking ingredients and other specific topic related resources. Thank you in advance for this.

We look forward to an enjoyable term.

The Nursery Team,

Miss Banks (Class Teacher) Charley Robinson (Nursery Nurse)