Term 2 Newsletter (Turtles)

Dear Families,

I hope that you all had a great half term. It's been wonderful to see how the children have settled back into pre-school. This term is a busy one, whilst our main enquiry is celebrations we will also be thinking about people who help us, within our school and the wider community. In maths we will be beginning to hear, talk and think about number. Our core texts this term are Iris and Isaac and Goldilocks and the three Bears. We will continue to learn a tradition poem a week and begin to learn our songs for the Christmas performance. This term we will also start sending one of our class Turtles home, the Turtle bag contains a notebook and a toy Turtle to enable the children to share elements of their home life with their friends.

Main enquiry question: Let's celebrate. How do we celebrate?

This term we will be thinking about celebrations; why we celebrate and how we celebrate as different families? We have already covered Eid celebrations and it's quite fortunate that this topic falls at this time of year as we have Fireworks night, Diwali and Remembrance Day before moving on to consider birthdays, Chanukah and different Christmas traditions.

- Article 13: Children have the right to share freely with others what they learn, think and feel, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms other people.

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website. Please click here to view the overview for this term. (PS)

Home Learning

Reading
We encourage any opportunity for reading either at home or in pre-school, it doesn't matter what you're reading but rather that it is a quality and enjoyable interaction between you and your child. The children will be visiting the library once a week and will have a free choice of which book they choose to withdraw.

Spelling
Whilst we will not be doing spellings in pre-school, promoting name recognition is a good skill to support children within their everyday experiences, such as finding their self-registration card.

Maths
Children are expected to practise key number facts at home regularly.

Pre-School & Reception
Click here to view our parent guide on how to support with mathematics. This has lots of ideas on play-based activities to help your child with key mathematical skills.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise early number facts at home. https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice.

Early Years

Busy Things can be accessed from home with useful maths games and activities.
White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.
Early Years

Busy Things also have some good games for times table recall practice, particularly miner birds.

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

Class Page You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.	**Nature Area** We try and spend as much time as possible outside and will be visiting the nature area on Wednesday afternoons.	**School Clothing Guidance** Please see the page on our website for more information on appropriate clothing for school.
Library Day As a class we visit the library on a weekly basis on Mondays but for those children who are in later in the week we ensure that they have the opportunity for a brief visit each week.	**PE Day** Our hall slots are on a Mondays and Wednesdays we use this time to develop our gross motor movement skills. It's helpful if children are wearing comfortable clothing and trainers on these days.	**What does my child need to bring into school every day?** • A waterproof coat. • Sun hat if required • Filled Water Bottle- containing water. • Spare changes of clothing: top, bottoms, underwear, socks, another pair of shoes. • Nappies and wet wipes if needed.

Questions or concerns If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to Chelsea during drop off or pick up times, alternatively you can send an email to info@somerdaleet.org.uk.	**Healthy Snacks for Playtime** In the Early Years and Key Stage One, the children are provided with a free piece of fruit or vegetable via the Government scheme. Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars. **For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.** For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.