



St George's Mini Dragons Nursery

Newsletter – Spring 1

We wish you all a very Happy New Year! It is great to return to school after the Christmas break and we look forward to seeing your children back in our wonderful Nursery classroom! We offer a very warm welcome to the new families who are joining the class - we can't wait to get to know your children and settle them in. Mrs de Koning is the class teacher Monday to Friday, with Mrs Heathfield on Thursday mornings. Miss Jacques is the Assistant Teacher Monday – Thursday and Mrs Hashim is the Assistant Teacher on Friday.

Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 8th February	Last school day before school closes for half term
Friday 9th February	school closed for children (staff inset day)

Reminders

Please could we ask that children bring in a named drinks bottle containing water. We continue to have a 10.30 snack of milk / water and a choice of fruit or vegetables provided by school.

Please could all children wear shoes that are safe to climb in every day e.g. trainers or school shoes. This allows all children to play outside regularly and safely (including on the castle). Please also bring a warm coat each day, we aim to use our fabulous outdoor area as much as possible throughout the Winter.

Please can we also have a pair of wellies to keep in school for wet days, forest school etc.

Weekly Overview

We offer a broad curriculum covering many areas of learning in each session. However, we plan to focus on these specific areas on the following days:

Monday – Early Writing & Creative Development

Tuesday – P.E. & R.E

Wednesday – Reading & Creative Development

Thursday – Number & Shape

Friday – Understanding the World, Fine Motor & Liturgy

Learning

Our topic for this half term is 'Traditional Tales'. We will be reading and learning about lots of familiar stories such as Chicken Licken, The Three Billy Goats Gruff, the Princess and the Pea and the Little Red Hen.

This term, in Phonics (the way we teach children to read and write) we will begin to teach the sounds (phoneme) individual letters makes as well as learning how to write them (grapheme). We will be covering one letter a week starting with /s/ and then /a/ /t/ /p/ /i/ /n/. Please keep an eye on Tapestry where we will be uploading a 'Phonics Phrase' to help children hear the sound in spoken words and 'Letter Formation Cue' to help children write the letter in the correct formation. Please practice these at home.

Activities to practise at home

Here a few ideas of short and simple activities you could do at home to support your child's learning in addition to practicing the sound of the week:

1. Read traditional stories with your children at home
2. Show 'finger numbers' up to 5 and count 5 objects (or more) by touching each one and saying the number out loud.
3. Talk about the shapes you can see around you using the language sides and corners as well as naming the shapes.
- 4.. The children are doing brilliantly at holding their pencils and scissors correctly. Please continue to practice these skills at home and alter their grip where needed.

Keeping in touch

Please remember to catch us for a chat either before or after school if you have any questions or concerns.

Tapestry is a great way for you to see what your children have been learning and experiencing at school. Please let us know if you are unable to access it or have any questions. We use this as a way to pass on important messages and communications as well as lovely photos taken throughout each day.