

## Dormice Class Spring Term Newsletter



Welcome back to the Spring Term! We hope you had a fantastic Christmas and enjoyed your family time. We are looking forward to getting back into our learning with our fabulous new topic "Journeys".

### **PSED** Personal, Social and Emotion Development

In PSED we will be focussing on our own likes and dislikes, feelings and behaviour. This will all be introduced through themes and the stories that we will be sharing and focussing on this term.

Alongside our theme of 'Journeys' will be talking about New Year resolutions and learning some of the traditions associated with Chinese New Year.



### **Communication and Language**

We will be working hard this term to speak clearly to explain our ideas and give reasons for our decisions. The children will be learning lots of new vocabulary linked to our stories and will be learning to re tell stories we are focussing on as part of Drawing Club.

We will be learning lots of new information from books and singing a wide range of different songs and rhymes.

### **Mathematics**

This term we will be continuing our maths mastery journey. We will be looking at numbers 0-5, subitising and representing them in different ways. Within 0-5 we will be looking at what is one more and one less than a number. We will be exploring the concept of mass and capacity in practical ways. Later on in the term we will be focussing on numbers 6-8. We will look at different representations of each number and look at what we already know about it. We will then use these skills we have learnt to understand the concept of odd and even numbers and doubles.

## Phonics

We have been having great success with the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Phonics scheme. Children have been really responsive to their learning and are continuing to make good progress. This term we will be focussing on digraphs and tricky words

Week 1 ai ee igh oa

Week 2 oo oo ar or was you they

Week 3 ur ow oi ear my by all

Week 4 air er words with double letters:  
dd mm tt bb rr gg pp ff are sure pure

Week 5 longer words



## Reading

This term we will be exploring some fantastic stories and through these stories we explore the possibilities of "What if...". The children started their Drawing Club journey in the Autumn term and they are going to be developing these skills further this term. The children will be encouraged to answer lots of questions about what they are reading and use vocabulary that they hear in books and the more challenging vocabulary introduced during Drawing Club. They will explore different characters and act out narratives using role play, props and puppets.

Please continue to read for pleasure at home. Children will reap the benefits the more exposure to story structure, language and text they have. Listening to adults read and modelling intonation and expression is very important. The more practice that children get to read at home, the more confident and fluent they will become. Reading books must be returned on Mondays so that they can be changed on a Friday ready for children to share with you over the weekend. Books must be kept inside the reading folder provided to ensure it stays in good condition. Children will only be issued with a Little Wandle book if they have their reading wallet in school.

## Writing

This term we will be continuing to provide exciting opportunities for children to write in their play. We will also be doing lots of writing in response to our topic and stories such writing New Year resolutions, and making up their own extraordinary adventures of the Naughty Bus and many more!

Lots of the children have been using their phonic knowledge for writing and it is wonderful to see such beautiful handwriting developing. We will be continuing to help children to write their names and to ensure that the letters are correctly formed and also that they have an effective pencil grip.



## Understanding the World

This term we will be encouraging children to use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. We will be exploring what we find in the Woodlands and where they have come from. We will be exploring different materials and talking about the similarities and differences.

Linked to our topic of journeys we will be looking at forces. We will explore different toy vehicles and explore how they move. We will also learn how to programme a Beebot programmable toy.

Later in the term we will be learning about plants and planting some of our own. We will learn to identify different parts of plants and what they need to grow well.

We will find out about the traditions of Chinese New Year.

## Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be able to use their developing vocabulary to act out different stories within the Role play area and outside. We will be using the Puppet Theatre to perform shows of the stories that we are learning.

The children will have the opportunity to explore different media such as paint, collage and transient art to make different representations of their experiences and make models of different modes of transport. We will be learning a range of songs and rhymes linked to our topic and creating and using instruments to support our story telling.

## Information and Reminders

Clean junk modelling is always welcomed. We always need the following:

- . Toilet/kitchen roll tubes
- . egg boxes.
- . Small cardboard boxes and cereal boxes

Please continue to encourage children to develop their independence skills. As the colder weather sets in please make sure they are suitably dressed with plenty of layers. A navy blue fleece over their school uniform would be a great idea!

## PE and Forest School

PE is on Fridays with Mrs Panesar

Forest School is on Fridays with Mrs Panesar. Please check wellies are in school and fit well.

Thank you for your support so far. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us at any time.

Dormice Team