



Rainbow Class Newsletter

Term 1 – September 2017

Welcome to Rainbow Class. We hope you have had a lovely summer and are ready for the next stage in your child's educational journey. For the first few weeks we will be doing some baseline assessments. These are done through Teacher Directed activities and challenges in Child Initiated time. The children won't know what we are up to!

Over the next few weeks the children will be finding out "All about me" including what they did when they were babies and what they can do now, who lives at home with them, what foods they like and which are good and bad for them and much more.

YOUR FIRST PIECE OF HOMEWORK IS TO SUPPLY US WITH A SMALL BABY PHOTO PLEASE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE WILL PHOTOCOPY THEM, IF YOU PREFER, AND WE WILL ATTACH THEM TO THE DISPLAY WITH BLU TACK

We will also be concentrating on developing fine motor skills, counting and numeral recognition, sharing and taking turns with resources and toys, learning to talk with a partner and having conversations in a group. We will also be starting phonics but more of that later.

Show and Tell – The children can bring something to school on a **FRIDAY** only. The objects should be small and not precious so that if they get lost or broken it will not cause any upset. It will be kept in a box for safe keeping. This is a useful carpet session activity that encourages the children to talk to the class, in small groups and in partners.

Birthdays

The birthdays we will be celebrating in September are for Jack and Lucy.

The birthdays we will be celebrating in October are for Sonny and Cas.



PE is on a Wednesday and we are so lucky to have Ryan from Premier Sports teaching the class. The class is divided into two groups so that he can really focus on developing the children's gross motor skills including balancing and coordination which will be needed as they work their way through the PE curriculum throughout the school. At the moment they are changing their plimsolls but next term they will change into their whole PE kit. If you are able to encourage them to practise changing in and out of it then it would be a great help.

Literacy – At the moment we will be seeing what the children are able to do now; whether they are writing letters, their names and other words, enjoy mark making/drawing and how they are holding their pencils. We will be incorporating fine motor skills activities into the daily routine to help build up muscles and co-ordination. As discussed we will be having a phonics meeting before I start teaching them using the Read Write Inc. framework. This meeting will be on Wednesday 27th September at 2.45 in Rainbow's Classroom.

Numeracy - We will also be assessing the children's level of numeracy knowledge. We will be practising counting from 0-20, finding the missing numbers and sequencing them. Activities you could try include: reading number plates and house numbers, reading speed signs or telephone numbers, matching small things with number cards. Once we have completed the baseline assessments I will give you more activities to help embed and extend their knowledge and skills.



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Book Bags – IMPORTANT – We will be sorting out book bags next week in them will be their homework folder, which will be handed out on a Thursday and need to be handed in on a Monday, their word wallet, a picture book, please write comments in their reading records, and a sharing book, which will be changed weekly. These MUST stay in their book bags so that have them to hand when we need them. Remember to check the bag daily for leaflets and their weeks' worth of drawings and paintings.

The class bear. The children have named the school bear Scruffy. There will be a diary in the bag so that the children can draw a picture of themselves with it and you can write about what they did together. Every day the bear will go home with the “special person” of the day. Please remember to bring it back in the morning to avoid upsets from the next “special person”.

Carrier Bags – We would like the children to have a named carrier bag in their book bag so that we can send home their art work weekly. Once you have emptied the bag please put it back in their book bag for the following week.

Welly Boots – As you can see the children love the mud kitchen so as the weather is becoming wetter and the children are getting muddier please bring the named welly boots in as soon as possible so we can use them as and when we need them.

Dropping off and picking up – We appreciate it is exciting for the children and their siblings to meet up with each other at the beginning and the end of the day in an outdoor area of toys and other resources but it would be much appreciated if the children did not play or disturb the activities we have put out. It does affect the flow of the day if we have to reset things or if things get taken home to borrow for a while. We will cover a majority of the activities so they can resist temptation. Also please do not allow the children to climb on top of the train as it is a health and safety issue and the children are not allowed to do it during school time.

Please could we have

- ❖ The red lids from the plastic cartons of skimmed milk.
 - ❖ A pair of scales – old fashioned or more modern
 - ❖ Any old landline telephones or old mobiles.
 - ❖ Any odd balls of wool or pieces of fabric.
 - ❖ Any odd rolls of wallpaper.
 - ❖ Any wooden bowls, pots, plates
 - ❖ Any stainless steel jugs, bowls, trays, ladels, big spoons
- Thank you in advance

Parent Noticeboards – In the cloakroom there are two noticeboards. The largest one will be full of information for you. It will include information about the way we encourage children to learn, the most current newsletter, activity sheets for numeracy, phonics, literacy and so on and important upcoming dates. The other board will be for showing you in photographs what the children have been up to during the week. We would also like to celebrate the children's achievements through the year so any certificates, photos or trophies should be brought in so we can celebrate and add to a display so everyone can see what the children get up to. It can be anything from swimming and ballet or football to growing flowers and vegetables to learning to do up their zip on their coat. Please share with us.