



Nursery Newsletter - Autumn Term 1 2018



A warm welcome back to our returning children, we hope you had a fantastic summer! We would also like to welcome our new children and their families to Thrapston Nursery School. The children are settling in well and starting to build new friendships. Throughout this term we will be continuing to settle the children, supporting them to develop positive relationships, both with the staff and their peers, and to become more confident with the nursery routines.



We have so many exciting activities and learning experiences planned for this term. The main topic will be MARVELLOUS ME! Where we will be thinking about our families, our feelings and ourselves. We will be exploring our senses by tasting different foods and trying to guess items from their smell. We will also talk about our likes and dislikes, such as our favourite foods, animals and toys. When talking about our families we will think about how they have similarities and differences. We will explore different emotions by reading stories and think about how we feel in different situations.

We will also be learning about AUTUMN. This will include looking at changes happening outside, to the weather and the environment. We will also explore seasonal food, Halloween and Harvest.

Thank You!

We want to say a BIG thank you to all of the parents that have already returned the 'all about me' booklets; these are very helpful in getting to know the children. In addition, thank you for returning the other various letters in the 'starting nursery' packs. Now that we have the photo consent forms, we can start to take pictures of the children and put them up on displays.

Clothing

A small reminder to ask you to name **ALL** clothing please and to remember that nursery can be a very messy place so please send your children in old clothes and be prepared for the children to be returned to you at the end of the day in need of a bath!

Harvest Festival – 10th November 2018

Whilst we do not join in with the main school for the Harvest Festival, if your child would like to bring a harvest box we will take it up to the festival with them. Details of this will be sent out nearer the time.

Lending Library

We will soon be sending out a plastic wallet with your child's name on it, with a reminder of how the nursery lending library works. These wallets are for you to store the books in and to keep them protected while travelling to and from nursery.

Interactive Learning Diaries (ILD)

You will shortly receive a letter containing details about how to register on the Parent Portal on the ILD. From this, you will then be able to log in and see the observations and photos we have uploaded of your child. You will also be able to upload your own photos and comments should you wish to do so. We often look at photos or comments from parents during group times. The children really enjoy sharing and talking about what they have been doing outside of nursery with their friends.

Wow Wall

We also wanted to remind parents of our 'Wow Wall'. It is currently located in the classroom, which can be accessed via the activity area. It is a space to display photographs/parental comments about your child's achievements/experiences/news. It's lovely for us to be able to celebrate these with them too, from learning to ride a bike, to dressing themselves, to staying all night in their own bed (!), no achievement is too small so please feel free to send in any contributions for this wall and we will share them with the rest of Nursery.

Colour of the Week Table

As a way of exploring colour and encouraging the children to develop confidence to talk in front of the other children, we are going to be introducing a 'colour table'. Every week we will focus on a particular colour and set up a table with lots of different items of this colour. If your child would like to, they can bring in an item of the 'colour of the week' to put on the table. At the end of the sessions, they can show these to the rest of the group.

Lunch Boxes

The children are settling well into the lunchtime routine; and have been really enjoying sitting together and chatting with their new friends as they eat. Keeping children healthy is a high priority at our school and we ask for this to be reflected in the children's lunchboxes. Please do not send fizzy drinks or more than one 'treat' per lunch. (For example, only one of the following: chocolate bars, donuts, packets of crisps). In addition, we are a 'nut free' school due to children's allergies. Please do not include any items that contain nuts in the children's lunch boxes (For example, peanut butter sandwiches).

Star of the Week

Next term we will be starting to choose one child per week to be the Nursery 'Star of the Week'. Each week, we will put all of the children's names that have stayed on the green face, into a bag and pick one out at random. The chosen child will be able to take home our nursery mascot for the weekend – Stick Man! We will provide a camera so that the children can document their weekend and a book for parents to write a few sentences about something Stick Man has done with your family. This could be going to a weekly club, visiting the park or simply playing at home with your child. Feel free to use a smart phone to take the photos if it is easier and email them in, or you could upload them to your child's ILD profile. Over the course of the year, every child will have the opportunity to be the star of the week.

The Rhyming Challenge

This term we will be taking part in the Bookstart, Rhyming Challenge. It is designed to enhance a child's early language skills, promote a love of rhymes and early poetry and it also supports emergent reader skills. The challenge is to learn up to 10 traditional nursery rhymes over a set period of time. We will introduce them to the children at school and would love you to practise them at home too. You will be given a resource pack which contains all of the rhymes – so don't worry if you don't know any! At the end of the challenge, the children receive a certificate for taking part.



Autumn Term 1 Learning Overview



Personal, Social and Emotional

We will be focusing on settling into nursery, sharing/taking turns, making new friends and learning the rules and routines in nursery.

Communication and Language

The children will be learning the names of the teachers and other children, being encouraged to ask for help and talk to their peers while playing. We will also be thinking about topic themed words and listening, and talking about stories.

Physical Development

We will be focusing on elements of self-care, e.g. toileting / washing hands. In addition, we will also be using scissors, completing 'funky fingers' challenges and using gross motor skills to make marks, with chalk on the playground for example. The children will also be exploring a range of construction resources, pedalling vehicles and crawling through apparatus.

Literacy

We will be sharing books, listening to stories and taking part in the rhyming challenge. We will be looking at environmental print and making marks inside and out using various resources.

Maths

We will be concentrating on recognising numbers 1-5, counting, learning number songs and exploring basic 2D shapes.

The World

We will be thinking about signs of autumn, harvest and farm animals. We will also be planting some spring bulbs.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be playing ring games, learning new songs, painting, and exploring colour. We will also be using natural autumnal objects to create art.

