



Newsletter Friday 14th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Inspired by the children, we have had a week with lots of activities linked to safari animals. The children have enjoyed a safari adventure outside, by building their own jeep, singing around the campfire and navigating the treacherous assault course. With all this lovely weather, the children have explored sand and water play developing new skills. We introduced icing bags to Blue Groups playdough play which was brilliant for building up those hands and core muscles to squeeze the playdough out. In Red group this week, we have moved some furniture around to make a lovely big space for construction, small world and loose parts play. The space has been busy all week with children working as a team, talking, creating, problem solving, role playing, risk taking and having fun. All areas of learning can be covered within this great space.

“Research shows play-based kindergartens produce students just as capable in core knowledge as traditional instruction. And the play approach better develops self-regulation, social skills, motivation and creativity.”
(Golinkoff et al 2004; Zigler & Bishop-Josef, 2006)

Next week’s theme is’The Euros!’ We think our children will love the activities we have planned.

Getting ready for school – from @phonicsfamily

“The best things to do to prepare your little ones for reading are probably things that you naturally do already anyway. Sing nursery rhymes, read stories, play 'I spy', talk! Doing all of these things will really give your little ones a great foundation for learning Phonics at School.

If your preschooler does show an interest in matching letters and sounds then that's great too but just know that it is absolutely not a requirement. If you are introducing a few letters and sounds then be sure to focus on the pure sounds of the letters rather than the letter names and start with lowercase rather than capitals.”

WHAT THINGS CAN I FOCUS ON?

- ✓ SHARING BOOKS AND STORIES TOGETHER
- ✓ EXPAND VOCABULARY
- ✓ SING NURSERY RHYMES
- ✓ CLAP OUT THE SYLLABLES IN WORDS
- ✓ IDENTIFY THE INITIAL SOUNDS OF OBJECTS
- ✓ LISTEN FOR SOUNDS WITHIN WORDS
- ✓ ORALLY BLEND SOUNDS TO MAKE WORDS
- ✓ ORALLY BREAK UP WORDS INTO SOUNDS
- ✓ USE PURE SOUNDS (AVOID THE /UH/)
- ✓ PLAY!

“STUDIES SHOW THAT CHILDREN'S VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN THEIR LITERACY ACQUISITION. IN FACT, VOCABULARY IS ONE OF THE MOST ROBUST LONG-TERM PREDICTORS OF GOOD LITERACY DEVELOPMENT”
(SNOW, 2005).

BUT...THERE IS NO RUSH! ONCE CHILDREN START SCHOOL THEY WILL FOLLOW THE SCHOOL'S PHONICS PROGRAMME WHICH WILL BE SYSTEMATIC IN THE WAY IT INTRODUCES LETTERS AND SOUNDS, INCLUDING THE USE OF ACTIONS AND LETTER FORMATION RHYMES. CHILDREN MAY HAVE TO 'UNLEARN' THINGS IF YOU HAVE INTRODUCED THEM TO SOMETHING DIFFERENT.



Important Dates

Summer 2

Monday 3rd June – Friday 19th July

Thursday 18th July – End of year party

Friday 19th July – 11:45 School Leaver

Presentation

Friday 19th July close at 12:15pm

Autumn 2024

Thursday 5th September – Term Starts

Parent and Child Review

Please complete and bring back your Parent and child reviews. They can be emailed back or handed in. We also have some spares at the front door.