



Dear Parents

HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone and a big welcome back to this the start of our second term! We have a busy term ahead of us - don't forget to check the notice boards & classrooms each day for updates on events.



Our theme this month is Winter with the additional topic of KEEPING WARM IN WINTER. A copy of our planning for this month is on display on the notice board. Remember that anyone who wishes to have a personal copy of the planning should mention this to your child's teacher and it will be arranged.

To help with our theme this month we would be grateful if you would bring in any photographs of your children taken in the snow, also anything of interest for our Winter table such as snowmen, snowflakes, woolly hats etc. Our colour for this month is WHITE so interesting items of this colour would be appreciated for our colour windows.



A special request this month is for winter clothes for the dressing up trolley, also interesting socks & gloves your children have grown too big for or hat & scarf sets, which are great for "sorting and matching" activities. Also we would love some polystyrene packaging to make igloos, etc. Donations of dried rice would also be appreciated.

We also hope to introduce a new short theme on the Chinese New Year which is on January 23rd. This will help children to understand about another culture and we hope to have lots of fun with it. Any resources would be appreciated.



The Monkeynastix programme begins on Thursday 20th January at 1.20pm for those children booked in to this after-school club. Parents should collect their children at 2.00pm. Reminder letters will be distributed.

Our Eco-School programme continues during the month of January when we look forward to welcoming RSPB on Friday 13th January. During this term we will be doing a lot of work on identifying and spotting birds as well as helping them to stay well fed during the winter months. The Nursery will fund the cost of this visit.



I am sure lots of you were lucky enough to receive new phones from Santa this Christmas. Please remember our recycling efforts and bring in your old phones (as well as printer cartridges from home & work). It all makes for a greener future!



Ellie Rose & Frank Tweedie

On Monday 30th Jan. we will welcome Exploris with their Winter Roadshow. This is a wonderful event with lots of hands on experience with the touch tank. Please see note for details



We are already planning the curriculum for February when our theme will be **People who Help Us**. If you have an interesting job or hobby you would like to share with the children please let us know.



May we remind you that **School Fund** for your child for the next half-term is due this week. Please send **£25** (to cover 5 weeks) in the money bags provided, or in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name, **by Monday 16th January at the latest**. We would also respectfully remind parents to send in dinner money on a Monday (or the first day of the week where relevant) as the SEELB recommend that this money is lodged each Monday.

Our supply of baby wipes is extremely low so we would appreciate it if parents would once again contribute a pack of wipes and 2 boxes of tissues to help with messy fingers and faces!

Application Forms

School Year 2012/2013

We would ask you to let relatives, friends and neighbours know that Application Forms are available for the school year 2012/2013, and these can be obtained from the school office. Please ensure you inform everyone that the Closing Date is noon Wednesday 11th January 2012. Applications received after this date will be considered as late applications.

Looking ahead to February the school will be closed on Monday 13th - Friday 17th February (inclusive) for our half term break.

Wishing Best Wishes To You All!





PARENT'S PAGE

We will be using the theme of Winter to introduce your child to different areas of learning. If you would like to follow this up at home, here are a few activities you might like to try. Play activities should be fun. Do not force your child to learn.

Talking

- Tell your child about the things you enjoyed doing in Winter as a child.
- The children will be making bird-cake. Watch and talk about the birds that visit the cake.



Stories

There are lots of wonderful books on the theme of Winter. Your local library will have some but we would recommend also...

Cudley Dudley by Jez Alborough
 The Snow by John Burningham
 The Cross Rabbit by Nick Butterworth
 Jolly Snow by Jane Hissey
 The Snow Lambs by Debi Gliori
 Lost in the Snow by Ian Beck
 Elmer in the Snow by David McKee



Out and About

- Use opportunities to draw children's attention to signs of Winter: Winter clothes, bare trees, frosty mornings, icy puddles or shorter days.
- If you are visiting a garden centre encourage your child to look at the indoor and outdoor plants. Also look for signs of snowdrops, crocuses or even early daffodils peaking through the soil.



In the Kitchen

- Talk about the different types of seasonal foods which we enjoy in winter like soups and stews, hot juice and drinking chocolate. Draw attention to the smells of hot food.



Rhymes and Songs

- I'm a little snowman white & cold
 I've got no hands or arms to hold
 I was made of snowballs rolled & rolled
 Stones for eyes but a heart of gold.
- Incy, Wincy Spider climbing up the trees,
 Down came the snow & made the spider freeze
 Out came the sunshine & melted all the snow
 Incy Wincy Spider had another go.

- In the snow we wear a coat,
 And a scarf & a hat
 In the snow we wear our boots &
 gloves to keep us warm



In the rain we wear a mac,
 Wellington boots, splish, splish, splash
 In the rain our hair gets wet,
 We put up our umbrellas
 (to the tune of 'London Bridge')

- Poor old snowman,
 Standing through the night
 (make a rounded snowman shape)
 He looks so cold in his chilly coat of white
 (rub arms with hands)
 Up comes the jolly sun, spreading warmth
 around.
 (make a big circle in the air)
 Poor old snowman's a puddle on
 the ground.
 (melt down to the ground)



- A chubby little snowman
 Had a carrot nose,
 Along came a rabbit
 And what do you suppose?
 That hungry little bunny,
 Looking for his lunch,
 Ate the snowman's carrot nose
 Nibble, NibbleCRUNCH!



