



Care
Curiosity
Determination

Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

We hope you and your family had a lovely break and are settling into the new Spring term. This letter is to inform both children and parents about the topics that we will be looking at this term and give general information that might be useful.

As you know the children spend a lot of time outside in all weathers and so it's important to have suitable clothing e.g. a warm coat, hat, gloves and scarf.

Please make sure these are labelled clearly as they often fall off coat pegs and out of pockets! Please ensure that all other school uniform is also clearly labelled. If this is in pen, check regularly as it does come off in the wash!



Your child will continue to have PE on a Wednesday and will need to come to school dressed in their PE kit on that day. Your child will need black pumps/trainers with Velcro (no laces please!), black shorts or joggers for colder days, a round neck t-shirt and hoodie in your child's house colour. If your child wears earrings, please ensure that these are the stud type, remove them before school or provide tape for your child to put on their ears themselves.

Children DO NOT need to bring in a water bottle to school, as we have provided each child with their own named water bottle that will remain in school. However, if your child has a packed lunch, they DO NEED to bring a drink for lunchtime.

It is important that children read their Phonics based texts at home at least three times a week, to help develop fluency and improving prosody skills. They need to continue practising their phonics booklets and enjoying discussing their sharing books with an adult. **Some useful guides on how to help your child at home with phonics, writing, reading and maths accompany this letter. Also included are documents which may help you with comments to add to your child's reading record and guides for handwriting.** Children will now be familiar with Phase 2 Common Exception Words (CEW) that were sent out in bookbags last year. Phase 3 CEW for both reading and writing expectations will be sent home in bookbags in the next few weeks. It's important that your child recognises these words confidently by sight. Remember, CEWs are tricky because you can't sound them out (decode)!

Please send your child's bookbag to school with them on their reading day only!

Please ask a member of the FS2 staff if you are unsure when this is.



We are delighted to see that 98% of children have one or more parent/carer accessing and engaging with their FS2 learning journey on Tapestry! When accessing your account via the internet (not the app) there are useful downloads in the Document section. It has been lovely seeing photographs and observation of the Autumn Personal Development activities. Winter activities will be sent out this week, followed by Spring activities after half-term. **If you are unsure how to activate your account or access content, please see Miss Sidebottom.** There are also many useful resources in the FS2 section of our school website. A weekly snapshot also appears on ClassDojo – if you haven't joined yet, please do so. **If you are unsure how to do this, please see someone in the school office.**

A member of the FS2 Team will continue to be on let-in duty each morning, if you have any messages, please pass them onto the following: Miss Sidebottom – Monday, Mrs Grainger – Tuesday, Mrs Gregory - Wednesday, Miss Gamble – Thursday and Mrs Cuckson – Friday.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please don't hesitate to approach us and we will do our best to help.

Thank you for your continued support!

FS2 Staff

Miss Sidebottom, Miss Gamble,
Mrs Grainger, Mrs Gregory, Mrs Cuckson,
Mrs Skevington, Miss McBlane and Miss
Yeoman.

Winter Wonderlands and Animal Antics



Expressive Arts and Design

- artwork including making collages of wintry scenes
- exploring cool colours within paintings
- making models of animals that hibernate
- music activities based around 'Big Band' music





Understanding the World

- learning about seasons
- exploring and experiments with 'freezing and melting' activities
- learning about the creatures of the Arctic and Antarctic
- finding out about hibernation
- exploring British wildlife



R-Time

- continuing to learn about 'Achievosaurus' and to use them within our learning
- learning how to work successfully with a partner



PSHE

- 'Dreams and Goals'
- learning about mental wellbeing, eating healthily and exercise in 'Healthy Me'





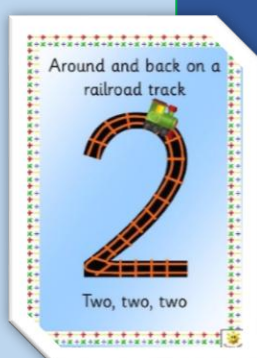
RE

- thinking about different celebrations around the world e.g. New Year, Pancake Day and Chinese New Year
- learning about how Easter is celebrated



Physical Development

- continuing to develop gross motor skills through 'Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle' activities
- developing spatial awareness and imagination through dance activities
- exploring the gymnastic apparatus



Mathematics

- continuing practical number activities using numbers to 20 and beyond
- numeral formation
- writing simple addition and subtraction calculations



Literacy

- a range of Winter and Spring texts will be shared including: 'Kipper's Snowy Day', 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', Percy the Park Keeper stories, 'When Will it be Spring?' and some Winter poetry
- children will also be learning about instructional writing



Things to look forward to in the coming months...more details to follow!
Hibernating Hedgehog Talk with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust
Infants Easter Bonnet Parade
Bear Hunt to Darley Park
Teddy Bears' Picnic