



The Emmaus Federation



Kirkstead Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back to a new and exciting term.

Topic

This term, our topic is, '**Once Upon A Time**' and the children will be starting the term with a WOW day – rescuing princesses, making crowns and shields, drawing and making castles with different genre. The children will be listening to different traditional tales, such as, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel, The Three Little Pigs and many more. If your child has any books traditional tales that they would like to share with the class, please send them in. The children will be completing 'Drawing Club' in English – learning lots of new vocabulary, drawing characters, settings and events and partaking in lots of storytelling and writing. The children will be learning about everyday materials and their properties – thinking of the best materials for a knight's suit and for making a castle. They will look at why castles were built, where they were built, the different parts of a castle, who lived in a castle and the roles they played in castle life. The children will be exploring how to join materials together with glue, sellotape, split pins etc and they will have lots of opportunities in their COOL time for construction, imaginative play and exploring lots of different art genres. In RE, the children will begin to think about special things and places to them and to others. We will also be learning about the traditions behind Pancake Day and hopefully making and eating pancakes. Additionally, we will be exploring the celebration of love by looking at the different ways people around the world celebrate Valentine's Day.

Reading and Phonics

The children have shown great determination in learning their phonemes and they will continue to be taught daily phonics using the scheme Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised. Thank you for supporting them at home with this too.

Decodable books will continue to be sent home on a **Friday**. Please return them on the following **Friday**. Please remember the books we have purchased are a valuable resource and we kindly ask that you keep the books in good condition so others may enjoy them too. If the book is not returned to school, your child will not be able to choose a different book. Sharing books will continue to be changed on a **Monday** and **Wednesday**.

Please record reading in the home school record as dojo points are awarded for daily reading.

Mathematics

This term the children will be learning that the number name zero and the numeral 0 represents nothing. They will be consolidating their understanding of more than, the same as, or fewer than using a range of representations. They will be continuing to develop their understanding that all numbers are made up of smaller numbers. They will be exploring the composition of 4 and 5 and they will be continuing to develop their skill of subitising. They will be using the language of heavy, heavier, heaviest, light, lighter and lightest. They will be estimating weights and they will be using balancing scales to compare weights. They will be using the language of full, empty, half full, nearly full and nearly empty. They will be making direct comparisons by pouring from one container to another. They will be exploring different sized and shaped containers and using the language tall, thin, narrow, wide and shallow.

P.E.

PE will continue to take place every week on **Monday**. Please send your child to school in their PE kit with their school uniform and school shoes in a separate bag ready to get changed into after PE. All of your child's school uniform, shoes and PE kit must be named. The P.E kit should be appropriate for indoor P.E and should consist of a **white t-shirt and black shorts**. This term the children will be engaging in gymnastics. They will be exploring different ways to balance, jump and roll.

Forest School

The children will be continuing to take part in weekly outdoor Forest School sessions and they will **need to have clothing appropriate for the ever-changing weather**. The Forest School clothing was sent home last term, so if you haven't already, can you please send in clothing for the outdoor sessions this term. This should consist of named trousers, long sleeved top and wellies or boots. When it is really cold, gloves, hats and scarves are advisable too.

Homework

Homework will be given out each **Friday** in the homework folder and is expected back in school on the following **Thursday**. The children will receive a phonics home learning task every week.

Fruit and Water

The children will continue to have access to a healthy snack (piece of fruit) each day. We encourage drinking water regularly so please continue to send your child in with fresh water every day in their named water bottle.

Picking up after school

If someone other than the usual person will be picking up your child after school, please let us know.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us via Class Dojo if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Nicholson and Mrs Allitt

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