

## FOUNDATION STAGE NEWS LETTER – JANUARY 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you have enjoyed the Christmas break and we wish you all a Happy New Year!

### **Mornings**

Now that all the children are settled into the 'school routine,' we thought it would be good to encourage the children to come into school independently. Starting from next week, please can you say goodbye to your child at the gate. If you have any messages, myself or Mrs Hughes will be waiting at the door. We will continue to open the gate at 8.55am but we will be closing the gate at 9.05am. If you have any concerns about this new arrangement please pop in to see us.

### **This Half Term's Theme**

This half term our theme is 'People who help us.' The children will be able to play in a number of different role play areas including a library, a school, a police station, hospital, vets, farm, fire station. If any parent has a 'special' job and would be willing to come and talk to the children for 15/20 minutes about their job it would be very much appreciated! Please let me know if you are interested.

### **Reading Books**

We will continue to try to change reading books twice a week. Occasionally we do have very busy weeks and some children's books may not be changed twice. Please be patient with us! If your child brings home a book they have already had, please mention this to Mrs Hughes or myself and we will swap it.

### **Profiles**

The Foundation profile is a record of your child's achievement whilst in Foundation. It contains information about what your child has been learning in school and the progress they have made so far. We will be sending these profiles home this week. In the front of the profile there is a section where you can make a comment if you wish. Please spend some time looking at your child's profile and then return it to school. We will continue to record your child's progress throughout their first year at school.

### **Phonics**

We have now taught the children all the 'initial letter sounds'. These are the single letter sounds that the children have been bringing home in their envelopes. Within the next few weeks we will be assessing your child's letter sound knowledge. Your child will then either be consolidating the single letter sounds or beginning to learn some two letter sounds such as ee (as in bee) and oo (as in moon). Please continue to support your child by practising recognition of the sounds on their flashcards and spotting them in reading and story books.

### **P.E and Outside Play**

P.E is still on a Tuesday. Please can you check that your child's P.E kit is labelled. We will also be encouraging the children to use the outside area as much as possible. Thanks to the parents who sent wellies, woollies and old track suit bottoms into school last term, these 'outside' kits did allow the children to play outside in all weathers!

Louis has lost his jumper. It is size 26 and it has his name in it. Please could all parents check at home.

### **Monday Evening Pop-in Sessions**

I am available on alternate Monday evenings starting from next week if you wish to see me about your child's progress. Please pop in to make an appointment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and speak to Mrs Hughes or myself.

Thank you

Susie Varley and Caroline Hughes