

April 2017

*Once upon a time...*



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the final term of the academic year! This term our topic is "Once Upon a Time" where we will be reading, writing about and dramatising traditional tales. During this topic we will be thinking about how stories are structured, where they are set and how to describe the characters in stories. The children will be developing their stamina for writing longer sentences and will have the opportunity to write their own traditional tale. We will start by reading Hansel and Gretel and Cinderella and will then follow the children's interests of which stories to read next. Please help your child by reading stories to them and talking about the characters and settings. The children's writing is fantastic and as always we love to see any writing that they have done at home. Please encourage them to use finger spaces- this will be a focus this term.

Thank you for the support that you give your children by listening to them read at home. It really makes a difference to their level of reading. Please ask your children questions about what they are reading- their understanding of the text is very important.

In maths we will be thinking about doubling, halving and sharing. Please help your child to understand these concepts by using them in everyday situations e.g. cutting toast in half, sharing a bowl of strawberries, playing dominoes and asking them to spot the doubles. We will also be looking at odd and even numbers and learning to count in 2's, 5's and 10's.

In art and design we will be thinking about how to make a bug house. The children in the Dragonfly class love looking for bugs outside and we want to capture this fascination! As the weather gets warmer we will be spending a lot

of time outside, you may wish to send in a spare set of clothes for the children to change themselves into should they get dirty.

PE will now take place on a Monday afternoon- the children will get changed after lunch. If the weather is fine PE may take place outside. We will ensure that the children wear jumpers/ cardigans/ hoodies if necessary.

The children will all be working towards their Early Learning Goals this term. These are 17 statements that the children must achieve in order to reach a Good Level of Development. You have already been given a copy of these statements- if you need another copy just ask!

Finally we welcome back this term Miss Garvey who has returned from maternity leave. Miss Garvey is a very experienced early year's practitioner and we are delighted to welcome her back to the team

Thank you as always for your continued support.

The Foundation Stage Team