

# Foundation Stage Newsletter

## Term Three

Welcome back! Happy New Year to you and your families.

Our newsletters aim to provide you with a termly overview of what we will be teaching in school and give you a few tips on how you can reinforce learning at home. Please also remember to check our Foundation Stage noticeboard, located on Cynnet's window, as well as our school website for more news and information.

### Sticks and Space!

Our book this term is called "Stanley's Stick". Throughout the story, Stanley chooses his stick to become different things – such as a dinosaur, a fishing rod and a rocket! We'll also be exploring the themes that appear in the story further (dinosaurs and Space!).

Our Space project will begin towards the end of the term. Your child will be taking part in their astronaut training day on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January, where they will get to experience what it feels like to be inside a rocket!

### Maths

This term, we will be continuing to explore numbers to 10 and beyond in many different ways: counting with 1:1 correspondence, saying number names in order forwards and backwards, exploring the concepts of "more" and "less", finding one more and one less, as well as practical addition and subtraction. We will also be learning to read and order numbers up to 20, remembering what number comes **before** and **after**.

We will also be learning to use different vocabulary to describe and compare length, height, weight and capacity.

### Literacy

We will be continuing to use our knowledge of letter sounds in our writing to write for a range of purposes (labels, lists, letters and stories). If the opportunity arises, please allow your child to write for a purpose at home (such as the shopping list!) using their phonics to have a go at sounding-out the words – the words do not have to be spelt correctly!

Our daily "Busy Fingers" session supports the children in developing the fine motor skills needed to gain an effective pencil grip and form letters.

For reading, we will be identifying the beginning, middle and end of the stories we read and use what we have read to make predictions for what might happen next. We will also be exploring different characters and developing our vocabulary to describe them.

### Phonics

The children have lots to feel proud of already! All children have now been grouped so that they can learn at a pace appropriate for them.

By the end of the year, most children are expected to be able to read simple sentences and gain meaning from them. Whilst most words can be "sounded-out", there are many which can't, therefore need to be read on sight from memory. Please continue to practise the key words on your child's reading record so that they build up their sight vocabulary quicker, which will help them when they move on to reading sentences.

Please see our website for phonics resources.

[www.ruthmiskin.com/en/read-write-inc-programmes](http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/read-write-inc-programmes)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/schoolradio/subjects/earlylearning/nurserysongs>

## General Notices

Your child will need a raincoat with them every day to ensure they are fully prepared for all weathers. You are welcome to keep one at school, along with a pair of wellies if you wish. Thank you.

If it has not yet been returned, please hand in your child's library book to your child's class teacher by **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January**. Any books that are not returned by this date will need to be returned by you.

We will be starting formal PE this term which will take place on a Friday afternoon. Your child will experience a range of activities, including Gymnastics, Dance and Multi-skills. To ensure your child's safety, **please remove earrings for school** and provide your child with a named PE kit that they can keep on their peg for the term. Their PE kit can consist of any colour top with shorts.

A polite reminder that we are a **nut-free school**. We have severe allergies in school, therefore please keep this in mind when organising healthy packed lunches/snacks for your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please note that we are continuing to finish at 3:15pm.

### Dates for your diary:

- 5.1.18 – Trip to the woods
- 29.1.18 – Astronaut Training Week begins
- 26.1.18 – Art Day
- 31.1.18 – Astrodome Training day (astrodome visiting – wear astronaut clothing)
- 31.1.18 – School nurse in school
- 9.2.18 – Last day of Term 3

Please help your child understand the meaning of these words and say them in a sentence:

more  
long/longer/longest after  
thick short/shorter/shortest  
thin first less  
heavy last before

We have loved hearing about your child's wow moments! Remember to write a WOW for our Wow Window so we can celebrate them in school. You are also welcome to send in your Wow and/or photos to:

[parkwoodfoundationstage@gmail.com](mailto:parkwoodfoundationstage@gmail.com)

