

Early Years News



Dear Parents/Carers,

A big hello to all our Early Years families from our Early Years team.

It has been particularly cold in the last couple of weeks. Please ensure that children bring in their coats, gloves and scarfs to help them keep warm. The children are actually enjoying the cold weather - unlike the adults!

Theme

Our theme this half term is “**Winter**” and for the following half term it’s “**Growth and Change**” (Spring).

This will cover life cycles, weather, patterns and colours, plants and flowers.

Talk to your child about how they have grown since they were a baby. What are the things they could not do that they can do now?

Take your child on a nature walk in your local area at the weekends or in the half term holidays and talk to them about the change in the environment. Look out for signs of growing and new life: flowers growing, trees starting to have leaves and also the change in weather: how the days getting longer.

Speech & Language Support

Please visit the **Hillingdon Speech and Language** Therapy website – www.cnwl.nhs.uk/hillingdon-talks for information about their service.

There are lots of strategies and resources for parents (including tips for encouraging young children to talk) and also links to other useful websites and local support groups. You can also follow them on Facebook – just search for “Hillingdon Talks” for regular hints and tips to support your child’s communication.

Reading books

Books are changed every Friday for Lower and Upper Early Years. Please sign the reading record for the book to be changed. Upper Early Years children must bring in their reading books and Reading records to school every day. Please read with your child every day and sign the reading the reading record daily. Ask lots of questions about the story and the pictures.

Letters and sounds

In Upper Early Years the children are trying hard with their reading. We will continue to practice reading and spelling words with three or four sounds in them. We are encouraging the children to use ‘Fred talk’ and read words on sight. They are learning to read and spell more ‘red words’ from memory. We are also reinforcing writing in sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We are encouraging the children to ‘have a go’ when writing independently.

In Lower Early Years the children are encouraged to write their whole name or some letters in their name independently. We are also encouraging the children to hold their pencil correctly and pre writing skills.

Number, Shape, Space and Measures

In Upper Early Years during this term we will recap numbers within 20. We will learn to read, write and order the numbers and say what is one more, or less, than a given number. We will explore estimating amounts to 20 and check by counting accurately. We will begin to learn how to add and subtract, initially by physically taking objects away and then on paper. We will also recap 2D shapes and patterns.

In Lower Early Years children will be learning to recognise numbers to 5 and then 10 and matching the numeral to the number. Counting correct number of objects to match the number and comparing two groups of objects, saying when they have the same number. Children will be using shapes appropriately for tasks and beginning to talk about the shapes of everyday objects, e.g. 'round' and 'tall'.

Book Bags

Please ensure that children bring their book bags to school every day. Book bags should be labelled clearly with your child's name. **No more than 1 key-ring** on the book bags please.

Uniform

Please label all clothing and shoes clearly with your child's name as it makes it easier to find them if your child misplaces any of them. Please also label all coats, gloves, hats and scarves. Children are allowed to wear trainers in Early Years. No shoes with laces please.

Diary Dates

13th February Wednesday – Come and Play with me

Parents and carers are invited to come and join in with the children in their play.

Lower Early Years AM and Upper Early Years – 9:00am – 9:30am

Lower Early Years PM and Upper Early Years – 2:40pm – 3:10pm

27th March Wednesday -- Read me a story

Parents and carers are invited to come and share a story with the children. You could also bring your own story books.

Lower Early Years AM and Upper Early Years – 9:00am – 9:30am

Lower Early Years PM and Upper Early Years – 2:40pm – 3:10pm

1st April Monday Years 3, 4, and 5's dress rehearsal Easter Production

All Lower Early Years AM and PM will attend the **Afternoon** session which starts at 12:30pm and finishes at 3:30pm. Upper Early Years will attend normal school day.

5th April Friday Last day of Term

All Lower Early Years AM and PM will attend the **Morning** session which starts at 8:30am and finishes at 11:30am. Upper Early Years will finish at 1:30pm.

On behalf of the Early Years Team

Mrs. Chandarana
Early Years Manager