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Manor Park
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10th January 2017

Dear Parents/carers,
Welcome back to school and we hope you had an enjoyable Christmas break.

Year: Nursery

Term: Spring Term 1

Themes: Houses and Homes

Core Books: The Three Little Pigs, Peace at Last, Sharing a shell, Homes, Rainbow fish.

Personal, social and emotional development

What will we be doing?

- Encouraging children to talk to adults and peers throughout their play to share their knowledge and respond to others.
- Speaking confidently to others about their homes and community.
- Considering the way our actions and words affect others.



Understanding the World

What will we be doing?

- Observing, recording and discussing metal, wood, plastic and textures in the Investigation area.
- Exploring our local environment and learning about different houses locally and abroad.

Communication and Language

What will we be doing?

- Listening to stories with attention and recall and joining in with the story The Three Little Pigs, and Peace at last.
- To ask “how” and “why” questions of others.
- Naming and knowing the uses of household objects, such as – What do we do with a microwave, toaster, vacuum cleaner, kettle, broom and a wardrobe?

Literacy

What will we be doing?

- Drawing wolves, pigs, houses and labels and telling others about our work.
- Learning the sounds of letters **m,a,s,d,t,i,n,e,g,f,r,l,u,h,b,c,k,j,o,p.**
- Describing story settings, characters and events in stories.
- Learning nursery rhymes through a new rhyme each week.

Mathematics

What will we be doing?

- Recognising numerals in our homes and writing numbers for a house number line.
- Counting sets of objects to make totals of objects, separating, adding and taking away.
- Arranging and talking about shapes that we use to make house pictures and models.

Physical Development

What will we be doing?

- Forming letters correctly when writing our names and letters of the week.
- Moving happily and confidently in a variety of ways in obstacle courses and role play activities.
- Using equipment and tools safely when building dens, towers and using scissors in creative activities.



Expressive arts and design

What will we be doing?

- Working collaboratively to act out the story of the Three Little Pigs in the outdoor role play area and outdoor construction site.
- Painting, drawing and creating models of houses.
- Using materials to build dens and tents.
- Acting out every day events in the home corner.
- Making music using household sound and objects such as; tick tock, drip drip, hmmm or tap tap. (Peace at last).

Useful Websites

What to Expect when: A Parent's Guide to Early Years Foundation Stage.

http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/4Children_ParentsGuide_2015_WEB.pdf

All parents were given a copy of the relevant age bands, at Parents Evening. If you would like to see this document on-line then you can see the Early Outcomes that your children are working towards. The document gives parents simple ways to support children to reach these goals.

Healthy Eating

Change4Life: <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/be-food-smart>

The new free 'Be Food Smart' app helps you to keep an eye on what your family are eating and drinking. With a simple scan you can see how much sugar, saturated fat and salt is in your food and drink. You will also find hints and tips for healthier choices plus food detective activities for children and fun mini-missions for the whole family.

Nursery Snack

Please remember that the snack given at Nursery is not a replacement for a healthy breakfast or lunch. Young children need a range of healthy foods to provide the energy they need to play and learn. Please ensure your child eats well before attending Nursery.

If you have any concerns about your child's weight, nutrition or eating habits then please speak to your child's key person who can direct you to appropriate support through a health visitor or GP.

How can you help your child?

- ❖ Please encourage your child to talk about and **describe your house** and compare it with other houses and buildings. Do you have a garden, upstairs or a balcony? Is it a flat or a house? Which local buildings are taller or shorter? Encourage them to name different rooms and the household objects/furniture in the house. Why do we need them? What do we do with them? You can also talk about different materials they are made of.
- ❖ Encourage them to **look for numbers** around the house and bring them in to nursery for our maths display. It could be a photo of your front door number, a number found in a magazine, newspaper, phone book, a number on junk mail flyers or receipts. Any number is welcome!
- ❖ Talk about heavy and light objects at home or let your child **use scales** at home to measure ingredients or themselves! Talk about **full and empty containers** as they play with containers and bottles at bath time. Which bottle holds the most water? How many small cups will it take to fill the bottle?
- ❖ Please let your child find and collect their own **name** at the start of Nursery. You can help them by reminding them of the first letter they are looking for.
- ❖ Give your child opportunities to **make marks** and hold a pencil with good control. Colouring books, tracing books, or even practising name writing on the back of old envelopes. Write shopping lists together or reminders to stick on the fridge! Children's magazines often contain colouring and tracing activities.

Last Notes

Attendance and Punctuality.

At Salisbury Nursery, we have high expectations for pupil's attendance and punctuality. To make the most of your child's learning time, please ensure all appointments are made out of nursery hours, where possible. Pupils whose attendance falls below an acceptable level are at risk of losing their nursery place. Nursery staff can not authorise any family holidays during nursery term time. If you wish to discuss any intended absence, please see the head teacher Ms Choppy at the main school office.

Stay and Play- Every Wednesday

We would like to invite all parents to "stay and play" at any time during their child's Nursery session.

It is a wonderful opportunity to play, read, write, paint and create with your child in the Nursery setting.

If there is specific areas or activities you would like to take part in then let the Nursery staff know so we can ensure resources are available when you visit.

Spare clothing

Please ensure your child has a pair of spare clothes in their bags in case of any accidents in the nursery. If you have any unwanted clothing (ages 4-5) such as tops, underwear, socks or trousers, please kindly donate to the Nursery.

Diary Dates

- ❖ **February half term one week holiday:** Monday 13th Feb to Friday 17th Feb 2017.
- ❖ **First day of next term:** Monday 20th February 2017

Please do not hesitate to speak to the teachers who work with your child if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education at school. Our teachers will happily make an appointment to speak with you.

Caroline Clifton

Assistant Head – with responsibility for Early Years and 0-5 year old provision.

