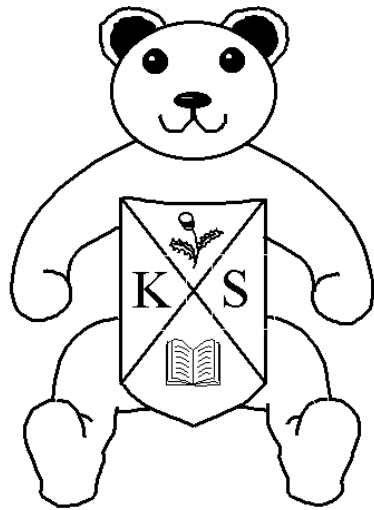


Killermont Nursery Class



Parent Information Winter/Spring 2018

What our Children Are Learning

Our new children are settling well into their new routine & parents/carers have been invited to come along for a Play & Share session to see how they have settled in.

Most of our planning in Nursery focuses on the current interests of the children and therefore can change on a week to week or even day to day basis. When the children are planning what to do in nursery they are encouraged to talk about what they know and what they would like to find out about or do.

In the morning the children have been interested in exploring changes outdoors in the recent cold weather. This is providing opportunities for the children to explore the properties of water with staff planning a range of literacy, maths, art and science activities. The afternoon children have been spending a lot of time playing in the role-play area with dolls building relationships and using language to communicate their ideas. They have also been exploring textures in sensory play.

Sharing Learning

We share the children's learning through our learning wall, which is situated behind the art area on the left as you come into nursery. Here we display the children's

interests and ideas and the activities planned in response to them. We also share our planning & what the children are doing on Twitter (@KillermontNC). Please make sure you check these so you know what is happening in nursery.

Winter Festivals

Some of our families will soon be celebrating Chinese New Year. This is a major festival in Chinese culture. Involving the children in learning about other countries and their celebrations such as these, helps them to develop positive attitudes towards others whose gender, language, religion or culture is different than their own. This year it is the **Year of the Dog** with celebrations starting on the 16th Feb. We would be delighted if any of our Chinese parents would like to talk about their celebrations with the children or to share their language e.g. reading a story.



We are continuing to work towards becoming an accredited Rights Respecting School award this session. Our Nursery Charter focuses on UNCRC articles which the children can relate to through the context of their rights in nursery & we will be extending this to creating a charter for outdoor play & the snack bar area to compliment the charters within the rest of the school.

Football

This term as part of the SFA 'Mini Kickers', an SFA instructor will deliver two 5-week courses so all the morning pre-school children will get the opportunity to take part. The course is designed to give pre-school children the chance to learn some basic ball skills as well as to increase spatial awareness, confidence and coordination. We will also provide ball skill activities for the afternoon pre-school children during our normal gym sessions.

Forest Kindergarten



This term almost all of the pre-school children will have the opportunity to be part of a block of visits.

The first two groups of morning pre-school children have started their visits. We will be sharing our experiences on the display board in the cloakroom & on Twitter.

Nursery/P1 Transition Experiences

This term the children will be joining with P1 in early level assemblies. We will also be planning shared learning experiences with P1 to prepare the children for moving into P1. During these visits the children will learn about 'Safe Sophie' & 'Nurtured Nicky' two of the SHANARRI characters that the P1 children learn about. The children will also be exploring the school indoors with some P6 children.

Spring / Easter

In the lead up to the Spring Holidays we will be focusing on the nursery garden and on the changes happening round us as we move into Spring. The children will be helping to tidy the garden and planting up our raised beds.

We will also be learning about the religious aspects of the Easter story. Of course, no Easter would be complete without our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** just before the Easter weekend on **Wednesday 28th March**.

Learning Journeys

The children's Learning Journeys will be coming home on Friday 27th April. We value all aspects of your child's learning and are keen to involve you so please contribute to the 'at home' sections as this helps to build the 'big picture' of how your child is developing. Once your child has had an opportunity to share their folder at home you will be invited to a play & share session in nursery with your child and their key worker. Further details will be issued closer to the time.

Lending Library

Wednesday is the day we change library books. Please remember to bring the library bag on a Wednesday. For part-time children who do not attend nursery on Wednesdays, we will exchange the library book on one of their allocated days.

Staff Development

Mrs May attended Story Stars training in December on ways to promote vocabulary development through story.

Mrs McLaren will be attending further training session on Outdoor Learning which complements the Forest Kindergarten training.

The nursery team will be taking part in further training on Language & Communication Friendly Nurseries on the February in- set day. Mrs May will also be cascading the Forest Commission Forest Kindergarten training with the nursery team. We will also be having some input on the importance of block play.

Mrs May attended a Maths Recovery training course this month which included input on the SEAL (Stages of Early Arithmetical Learning) approach that is currently being introduced into P1 & 2.

Miss Mathieson will be attending training on:

- Observing & extending children's learning
- Additional Support Needs
- Autism Advisor Reconnector course and will be working on the new Care Standards along with some other local head teachers.