NURSERY NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2

WHITEHORSE MANOR INFANTS

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NOTE FROM THE TEACHER

Welcome back for another exciting half term! It is great to see how the children have settled back in so well to the Nursery routine and we love to see how happy they are to come to school. The learning is already well underway in the classrooms but we wanted to write to you and let you know what we will be learning this half term. Our topic this half term is 'I can see a rainbow!' where the children will focus on colour, colour mixing and lots of wonderful books about the range of colours they see every day.

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

Communication & Language

Over the next half term, the children will continue developing their understanding of routines and expectations. Now that they are settled in both indoor and outdoor spaces, we will focus on following one and two step instructions during activities.

We will also be exploring color through creative projects (linking with Expressive Arts and Design) and encouraging the children to use descriptive language to talk about their artwork.

Please keep asking your child about their day, it's a great way to boost their vocabulary and confidence!

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

As the children continue to settle into nursery, we will be focusing on helping them look after their learning environment and feel confident in their space. We will also be supporting them to understand sharing, taking turns and building positive friendships. Good choices and positive behavior will be continuously encouraged and celebrated across the setting!

Physical Development

This term children will continue to explore the outside equipment to improve their gross motor skills. This will include climbing equipment, using bikes, stilts and hula hoops. These activities help build important muscles that then support their fine motor skills for writing. Alongside this, we will be working on using a variety of tools for a purpose. This will include scissors, hole punches, paint brushes and other tools whilst creating in the art area. These tools will help strengthen their fine motor skills and support them with forming a strong pencil grip.

Literacy

This half term, our learning will center around color-themed stories, including Brown Bear, Brown Bear by Bill Martin Jr. and Mouse Paint by Ellen Walsh. Through these texts, we will introduce new vocabulary and encourage lively discussions by asking and answering questions about the stories, fostering a love of reading along the way!

As we move into Autumn 2, we are excited to introduce the 'Foundations of Phonics' scheme from Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised. Building on last term's sound awareness games, where the children practiced distinguishing between everyday sounds like cars and helicopters. We will now be playing fun oral blending games in whole-class and small-group sessions.

Maths

In mathematics this half term, we are focusing on shapes! Each week, we will introduce a new shape, exploring its unique properties and learning how to choose the right shapes for a purpose, such as using them to draw pictures. We will be learning about circles, squares, rectangles, and triangles.

How you can help at home: You can support your child's learning by spotting shapes together in your everyday environment! Try playing shape-hunting games at home, over the weekend, or on the walk to school (e.g. "Can you see any squares?" or "I spot a circle, can you find it?"). This is a fantastic way to help the children notice shapes around them and consolidate their understanding.

Understanding the World

In this area of learning, we will be exploring celebrations. We will investigate how people in our local community and around the world share different traditions and special events, while encouraging the children to reflect on how their own families celebrate. Having recently learned about Diwali, we will now compare it to Bonfire Night and Christmas, helping the children identify key similarities between them. As we explore the Christmas story, we will discuss how Christians mark this special time, how others in our wider community celebrate and how these traditions compare to celebrations the children experience in their own homes.

Expressive Arts & Design

In Expressive Arts and Design, we are diving into color exploration! The children will experiment with mixing primary colors to discover all the fantastic new shades they can create. A key focus will be exploring the rainbow spectrum, using vibrant colors in creative ways with a wide range of media, including paint, tissue paper, and crayons.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Individual and sibling photos: Friday 13th November

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day: 11th December

Nursery Christmas Concert: Thursday 17th December at 11:15