

January 2020 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all experienced a super Christmas and we wish you all a happy and healthy new year.

The first week back following the break, is always a bit of a struggle, getting back into routine. We are all fully rested and ready for the new year ahead.

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year the week of the 27th. Tuesday the 28th we plan to have a celebratory lunch.

Planning

This month we have a new theme, Construction and the sub-heading is Transport.

The early learning goals, prime areas being covered are-

w/c 6th- Making Relationships and People and Communities.

w/c 13th- Speaking.

w/c 20th- Numbers.

w/c 27th- Moving and Handling.

Book of the Month

This month the book we are focusing on is Piece of Cake.

Song of the Month

We are starting off the new term with 'Row, Row Row your Boat'.

Home Learning Board

The board displays, suggested activities for Personal, Social and Emotional Development. The sub-headings are Making Relationships, Self Confidence and Self Awareness and Managing Feelings and Behaviour. If you try any of the activities, please share on Tapestry.

Talk About Tip

The displayed document discusses the importance of skills your child needs to learn to become a confident and chatty communicator.

Sector News

The UK vaccination programme is successful with generally high take up of vaccines and resulting low incidence of disease. It is a concern that recently there has been a small decline in uptake for all vaccines. The uptake of MMR has declined over a four year period and is now just above 90 per cent. In response there has been much public discussion about whether vaccination should become mandatory.

In the UK there were almost 1000 cases of measles in 2018, with a significant proportion in older teenagers and young adults who were not vaccinated due to the MMR safety scare of the early 2000's. Andrew Wakefield published a paper in 1998, claiming a link between the MMR vaccine and autism. The connection has since been dismissed and Wakefield dismissed and stripped of his title.

Research suggests that most under immunisation is not because parents decline the vaccine but for practical reasons. Busy family lives with competing priorities can make accessing services challenging. It can be difficult to even make an appointment to see the doctor.

It is believed the solution is to make vaccination services more accessible, providing them outside working hours and in places frequented by families and children centres, nurseries and supermarkets. In addition it is important parents are given information about vaccinations by health visitors.

Making vaccination a requirement for children to attend school should be the last resort. There is no good evidence from other countries that mandatory vaccination works on its own and it is not fair to make compulsory when some groups still have difficulties accessing services.

The NHS and Institute of Health Visiting website have plenty of information about childhood vaccinations, for further knowledge.