**NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018**

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**ST PHILIP’S MARSH NURSERY SCHOOL**

**Changes**

During this term the children’s learning will continue to be based around the theme of ‘changes’. The children will be observing changes in the natural environment and how different materials can change, for example through cooking, freezing and melting. As Spring approaches the children will be learning about life cycles. We will be chitting and planting potatoes.

Each class looks after tadpoles and over the term they will observe the changes that occur as they look after them. If anybody has any frogspawn they could bring in please see your child’s key person.



We will be also celebrating Chinese New Year (Year of the Dog) after half term

**INSET Days**

**We have two INSET days:**

**Thursday 1 March and   
Tuesday 13 March**

**The School will be CLOSED on these days for staff training.**

**World Book Day**

World Book Day is 1 March 2018 and we are celebrating it on **Wednesday 28 February**. Your child is invited to dress up in pyjamas, bring a teddy, their favourite book and donate £1. The money raised will fund new books to be sent to Africa.

**Activities to do at home**

**Literacy**Play around with familiar songs to emphasise alliteration such as “Old MacDonald had some **sh**eep, **sh**oes, **sh**orts, with a **sh** **sh** here and a **sh** **sh** there”.

**Numeracy**Cooking is a wonderful medium to develop children’s purposeful use of measure e.g. talking to your child about weighing ingredients, dividing the mixture and the number of ingredients needed. This principle can be applied to day-to-day cooking and baking. Also try to use mathematical language e.g. heavy, light, big, small, more, less.

**Rhymes of the term**

****We continue to have rhymes of the term across the school so please check the board in the classroom so that you can sing them at home with your child. All rhymes are also available on the school website [www.**stphilipsmarshnursery**.co.uk](http://www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk)

**Behaviour on school premises**

We understand that traffic difficulties in Bristol affect all schools and parents. They have been particularly difficult lately and we appreciate the efforts everybody makes to ensure they park safely and put the safety of the children first. Any threatening or abusive behaviour on school premises is completely unacceptable. Thank you for your consideration.

**Severe Weather**

We always endeavour to keep the school open and plan carefully for all eventualities. However, on occasions we have had to close because of severe conditions. This is usually snow related and because of Health and Safety or staff shortages. If we are in a situation where we cannot open the school it will be announced on local Radio Stations (Radio Bristol 95.5FM), and published on the Local Authority and School Website.

[www.bristolcity.gov.uk](http://www.bristolcity.gov.uk)

[www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk](http://www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk)

**School Meals**

We would like to kindly remind parents that school meals are to be paid for **in advance**. The school cannot provide meals without payment. Families who are in receipt of benefits such as income support are entitled to free school meals. Please check with the School Office if you think you may be entitled to free school meals. The cost of a school meal after half term will be £1.90.

**Times of sessions**

Please could we remind parents of the session times. The morning session **starts at 8.45 am** and **finishes at 11.45 am**. The afternoon session **starts at 12.30 pm** and **finishes at 3.30 pm**. We understand that the start and end of the sessions are extremely busy times of the day and the car park is often crowded and allowances should be made for this. If on the odd occasion you anticipate being late to pick up your child please could you phone the school to let us know. This avoids your child becoming upset.

**Donations**

The school provides free milk for all children. We do, however, rely on donations of fruit, vegetables (e.g. carrot sticks, cucumber, peppers) and other healthy snacks (e.g. cheese, bread sticks) for your child to share at snack time in the morning and afternoon. If you could bring in a small amount each week it would be greatly appreciated.

It is the time of year for cold viruses and we would also appreciate donations of **boxes of tissues** for the children’s use.



**Absence**

It is important that your child attends nursery regularly. However, please may we remind you that if your child is unwell you keep them off school and inform us on the first day of absence.

**Some important dates**

**Thursday 8 February** – School Photographer

**12 – 16 February (inclusive)** – Half term holiday – School CLOSED

Celebration of World Book Day – **Wednesday 28 February**

**INSET Day – Thursday 1 March – School CLOSED**

**Speech and Language Drop-in – Thursday 8 March**

**INSET Day – Tuesday 13 March – School CLOSED**

**Friday 16 March 3.30 pm – Friends of St Philip’s Easter egg hunt (more information to follow)**

**Monday 19 March 9.15 am - Sing-along followed by Friends of St Philip’s coffee/cake**

**Friday 23 March 2.30 pm – Sing-along**

**26 March – 6 April (inclusive)** – School CLOSED - Easter Holiday