

# Acorns Nursery Newsletter Spring 2

Skills developed through play include; Teamwork, problem solving, empathy, creativity, self-expression, negotiation, communication, goal setting, following rules, self-confidence, self-reliance and social interaction.

We have another busy term ahead filled with purposeful play activities, as we explore and investigate *People who help us*.

## LITERACY

We will use many well-known picture books and stories, encouraging the children to enjoy listening to the books and to respond in a variety of ways to what they hear, reinforcing and extending vocabulary.

We offer many opportunities for the children to explore the sounds of words to use descriptive vocabulary and to see some of their ideas recorded in both words and pictures.

A number of the role-play activities that we initiate this term, allow children to use their imagination and to use both speaking and writing within their play.



## Mathematics

### Number

Our topic provides a meaningful context for mathematical activities. Counting household objects, foods, even measles in the Doctor's office as we develop and reaffirm language for addition and subtraction.

### Shape and Space

We offer opportunities for the exploration of measurements, shape, size and position as they compare the lengths of fire-engine ladders, and pretend to wash up comparing which containers hold the most water.



## Phonics

This term the children are challenged to distinguish sounds - as we explore musical instruments, tone and rhythm.

During our carpet time activities we will introduce several teaching techniques including My Turn Your Turn, Talk to your partner essential for Phonic development in school.

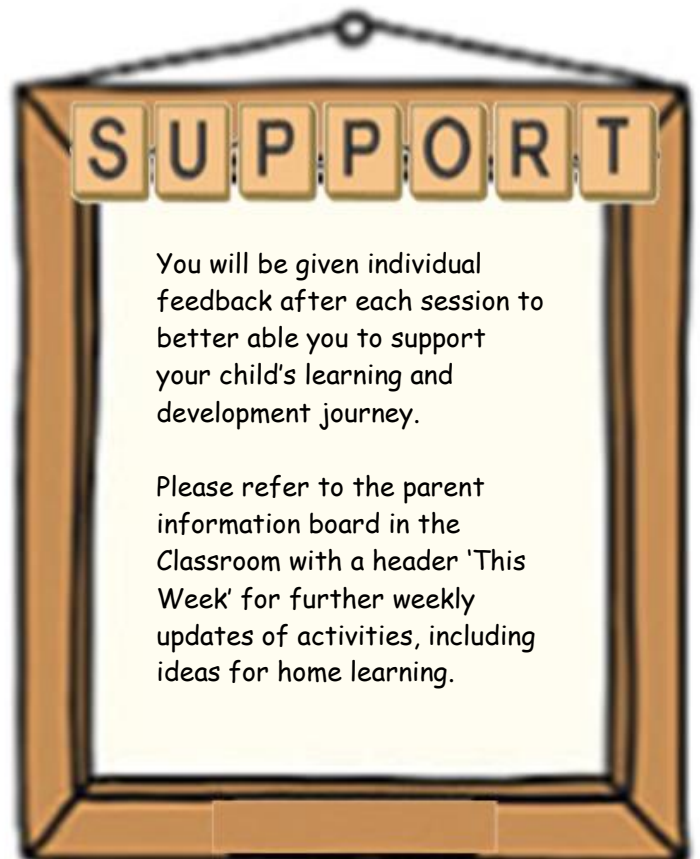
We will also look at additional rhyme and verse. Playing with rhymes inserting nonsensical words for more play and discussion.



## SUPPORT

You will be given individual feedback after each session to better able you to support your child's learning and development journey.

Please refer to the parent information board in the Classroom with a header 'This Week' for further weekly updates of activities, including ideas for home learning.





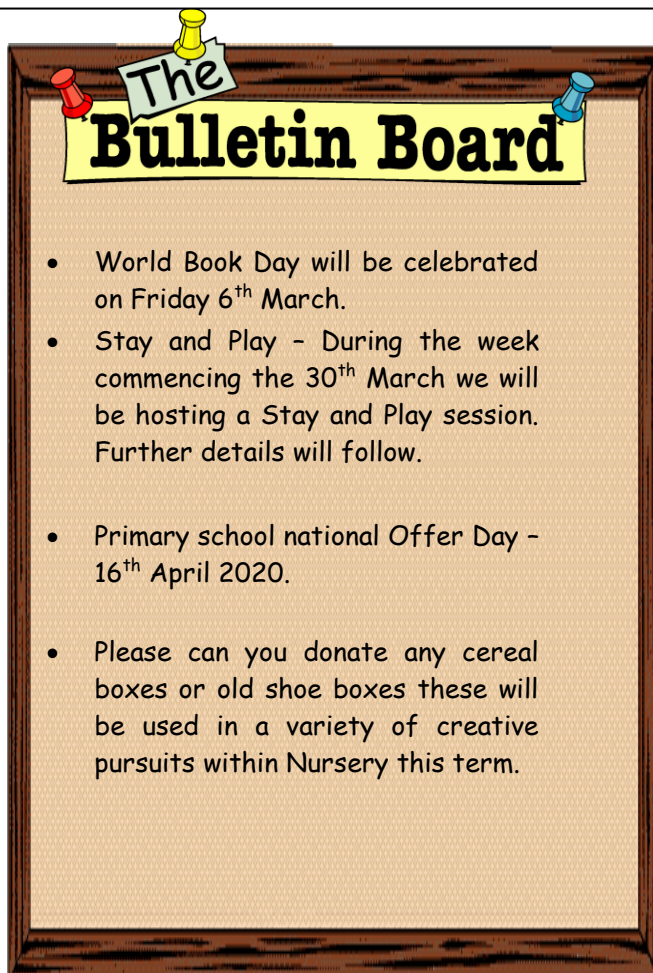
This term, we will continue to scaffold your child's development in a way that is tailored to them. Your child will be supported and challenged individually across all the areas of learning and development as we offer activities that are meaningful and in line with your child's capabilities, level of understanding and their interests; also taking account of their preference for learning.

In addition to this, we will also ensure that our areas of our continuous provision are enhanced to support the themed learning intentions, thus ensuring that your child is always stimulated in a now familiar environment. For further details of our topic, see the final page.

Further details of our topic can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

### Early Education Funding – 30 hours entitlement

If you are in receipt of thirty hours early education funding, it is vital that you renew your code with HMRC. Failure to renew your code prior to the expiry date will impact receipt of your funding. Please ensure that you action reminders with regard to your code that you receive from HMRC as soon as you receive it. If you would like to know when your code expires then please discuss with the Nursery team, many thanks.



- World Book Day will be celebrated on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.
- Stay and Play - During the week commencing the 30<sup>th</sup> March we will be hosting a Stay and Play session. Further details will follow.
- Primary school national Offer Day - 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020.
- Please can you donate any cereal boxes or old shoe boxes these will be used in a variety of creative pursuits within Nursery this term.

### REMINDERS

Upon arrival and departure - can you please discourage your child from playing with the resources in the playgrounds, help us to keep our environment safe, secure and enjoyable for all our children during school hours.

Toys from home - can we please ask that all toys from home are no longer brought in. Some toys are not suitable for our younger children and also it can cause issues if the toy is lost or the child does not want to share their possession from home. So please leave your toys at home.

Please ensure that your child has a change of clothes with them at school, these may be needed in the event of a toileting accident, due to messy play or a fall.

Thank you.

Stories online: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories>

Alphablocks: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games/alphablocks-games>

Numberblocks: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>



## Our Topic this Term - **People who help us**

There are lots of people who help us in the community and this term we offer lots of opportunities to learn about how they help us in our day-to-day lives. Some of these people help us in emergencies, like Firefighters, Police Officers and Doctors, so we need to know to get in touch with the right person to help. This term we explore such situations. Other people help us to stay safe and healthy, like Opticians, Dentists and Refuse Collectors. This term, we encourage children to notice places and people in their community and show them that they are part of a wider community.

There will be many activities that we deliver during this half term in order to deliver our topic learning objectives. Below we offer an overview of the activities that we will deliver each week.

<b>Week One</b>	<p>We focus upon <b><i>People who help us at home</i></b></p> <p>Discussions of the different things that children can do to be helpful at home. Using cutlery and crockery we reinforce the safe way to carry and use them. Comparing food containers we explore volume, and the amounts of water that they can hold. Who prepares the meals at home? We can look at how the children can help. What other jobs need to be done around the home; the children will plan out a day spring cleaning, how can we recycle or decide what is waste? And we encourage exploration of a variety of cleaning materials.</p>
<b>Week Two</b>	<p>We focus upon <b><i>People who help us at school and nursery</i></b></p> <p>We investigate and discuss what would happen if people didn't do their jobs. Helping the children to understand and appreciate that each person has an important role. We encourage our children to show thanks and challenge them to consider how they can further help those who help them. Looking at the importance of being tidy and putting toys away and taking responsibility for their own belongings. As a numeracy focus we organise our book corner into a library. Exploring fiction and non-fiction books, we ask the children to match the book ticket to the actual book as we reaffirm number recognition.</p>
<b>Week Three</b>	<p>We focus upon <b><i>People who help to keep us safe</i></b></p> <p>Exploring the work of our emergency services, the children are encouraged to take on a role in their play. We discuss how to contact the emergency services in order to get help. We remind the children of our road safety steps too, as we revisit the role of crossing patrol and the key messages about road safety. We also look at how the children can keep themselves safe, how to correctly use tools and how to avoid choking hazards. We challenge the children to be safety inspectors; as they recognise dangers in our environment and how they can avoid being hurt.</p>
<b>Week Four</b>	<p>We focus upon <b><i>People who help us stay healthy</i></b></p> <p>Initially talking about how it feels to be unwell, we look at the people who help to make us feel better. How do they do it? Exploring physical health, the children are encouraged to talk about how we stay active, healthy and the impact that physical activity has upon our bodies. We create our own circuit training activities encouraging the children to create and use instruction sheets. We emphasise the importance of daily actions that we take that are related to staying healthy; brushing teeth, washing hands, combing hair and so forth.</p>
<b>Week Five</b>	<p>We focus upon <b><i>People who help us to have food</i></b></p> <p>Exploring ingredients we talk about where they came from. We explore the role of the Shopkeeper, Milkman, Farmer, Baker and Cook. Creating our own posters to advertise foods on sale in our own shop. Using verse and rhyme we encourage counting. We try and plant our own vegetables, can we help them grow?</p>
<b>Week Six</b>	<p>We give <b><i>THANKS</i></b></p> <p>We invite the people who help us in this week for a celebration party. Parents/Carers will be invited in this week as we have a stay and play session in this final week of this half term. The children will make their own invitations for a thank you party and we encourage them to create a gift as we encourage the children to all 'have a go' in a process art activity.</p>