



Meltham CE Primary School
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Headteacher Mr P Gibbins

December 2023

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to our Foundation Stage Spring term newsletter, where we will discuss the topics and events we have coming up this next term.

This term we have lots of exciting things going on and lots to learn! Firstly, we will be enjoying the topics of Chinese New Year and Traditional Tales, and after half term we will learn about New life and On the Farm.

<u>Phonics</u>	After working hard learning our phonemes and digraphs, we will introduce many new digraphs (2 letters 1 sound - oa, ee, ie, oo) and trigraphs (3 letters 1 sound - ear, air, igh). We will also continue to work on blending and segmenting words to read and spell. Weekly homework will continue to be sent on a Thursday to support their phonic and maths knowledge.
<u>Reading</u>	This half term we are planning on beginning guided reading sessions. We will be doing 2 sessions a week and we will continue to send individual reading books home. Reading Champions will restart each half term with a target of 25 reads for next half term.
<u>Literacy</u>	We will be applying our phonic knowledge, practising pencil control, handwriting and letter formation, spelling of key words and sentence structure.
<u>Maths</u>	We will focus on numbers within 10, mass and capacity, length, height, time and exploring 3d shapes.
<u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u>	We will be making New Year resolutions, discussing feelings and emotions, saying sorry, the importance of sleep and keeping healthy, circle time activities, whole school assemblies, Celebration and Shining Stars assemblies.
<u>Expressive arts and design</u>	We will be creating Chinese New Year crafts, cooking, exploring colour, making rhythms, painting, singing, role play, acting out Traditional Tales
<u>Understanding the world</u>	We will observe seasonal changes, explore ice baubles, look at Chinese New Year traditions and food tasting, understanding cultural differences, stories, outdoor play trays, outdoor exploration in free choice, assemblies and a school trip.
<u>Physical Development</u>	We will continue P.E. and have access to outdoor provision, take part in dance sessions, gross and fine motor control activities
<u>Communication and Language</u>	We will have opportunities to use story language, retelling traditional tales, circle times, daily questioning and speaking in our class assembly.

In our Religious Education learning, our topic is 'What we see in our Wonderful World'

Reading Champions

We are continuing to take part in the 'Reading Champions' challenge along with the rest of KS1. This is to promote a love of reading and reward children for the super reading they do at home! We are really proud of the number of Reading Champions we had last term and hope to beat our number this half term! A 'read' could be any form of reading e.g. shopping list, magazine, shop signs, recipes, school reading book, library book or any book from home. We recommend that you read with your child for 5-10 minutes every night. Every time an adult from home e.g. mum, dad, grandma, grandad etc, reads with your child they must **sign and date the reading record** (12.2.22 Alex read well, he really enjoyed the story. Dad). We will then count up the reads weekly and we will mark how many reads next to their name on a special 'Reading Champion' chart in the classroom.

We will highlight/number each counted read in your child's reading record as well so that you know how close your child is to becoming a 'Reading Champion'. This term we are aiming for 30 reads, with a max of 2 reads counted per day.

Our FS and KS1 Reading Champions assembly will be on the last week of the half term.

Class Assembly

Our first Foundation Stage Year Group assembly will be on **9th February at 9.15am**. Grown-ups are welcome to attend our class assembly. Please meet at the main entrance at 9am.

Class Trip

Our class trip will be to Cannon Hall Farm-Date to be confirmed.

Spring 1 Indoor PE

In January, we will be taking part in Dance sessions every Wednesday. Your child will need to come to school in an indoor PE kit. This will consist of a plain white t-shirt, plain black shorts or jogging bottoms and a plain black hoodie.

Name reminder

Please ensure **all** items of clothing, bags and water bottles are named, this includes jumpers, cardigans, hats, scarves, gloves, waterproofs and wellies. We really endeavor to return property to its rightful home - thank you!

'Just in case' bag

We send your child's 'just in case' bag home at the end of every term as they may need refreshing, they may have grown out of clothes or they may have been used. Please return it with them on their first day back in January. Please label everything right down to socks and underwear. As the weather worsens, the children must have a spare change of clothes in school in a labelled bag. We recommend a white t-shirt, a jumper/cardigan, socks/tights, underwear, trousers (plain joggers or school trousers) or skirt.

You can keep up to date with all our activities and news by following us on Twitter @foundmelthamce and looking on the classroom windows. Tweet us/email your photos and videos from your home learning!

There is a lot of information and a lot to remember on this newsletter so please take the time to read it carefully. Please feel free to ask if you have any queries or problems.

Thank you for your continuing interest and support.

Class Teachers and Educational Teaching Assistants

Class 1 – Mrs. Wimpenny, Mrs. Spittlehouse, Mrs. Needham, Mrs Ellam & Mr Pogson

Emma.wimpenny@kirkleeseducation.uk

Class 2 – Ms Mottram, Mrs Myers (Monday & Wednesday am), Mrs. Charlton, Mrs Helliwell

Nicola.mottram1@kirkleeseducation.uk

Rebecca.myers@kirkleeseducation.uk

PPA Teachers – Mrs. Stier (Class 1 Weds am) and Mrs. Myers (Class 2 Weds am)