



Little Pippins Newsletter –June 2016



Dear Parents,

We welcome you back for our final term of this academic year, we have a busy 7 weeks planned.

We shall be using the theme **Journeys – Near and Far** to address the various areas within our pre-school curriculum during this term. Please take a look at the *Planning Web* in the lobby and on our website <http://www.littlepippins.org.uk/>. There will be a larger focus this term on Understanding the World as we explore some scientific and geographical concepts.

Each term there will be a core selection of story and information books chosen primarily for pleasure but also to support the ideas we are trying to develop in all areas of the revised EYFS curriculum. There is a list below in case you want to follow these up with trips to the library.

Week 1 – Introduction to our theme...

We will be talking about various types of transport. We shall make a block graph to show how the children come to pre-school. Please choose a transport symbol at the beginning of each session this week and help your child to stick it on our block graph. The home corner will become mission control and space centre. (M, UW)

Week 2 – Space Rockets / Near and Far

We will use both story and information books to look at planets and space travel. The story this week will be *Whatever Next* and the children will use this as a basis for thinking about alternative story endings! We will discuss ideas and gather props for a role-play space ship and start to create a *Whatever Next* display! (C, C&L, L & UW).

Week 3 – Trains / Wet and Dry

We will use stories and information books to focus on trains and the concept of time this week (UW, M, C& L and L). There will be an opportunity for your child to look at maps and to experience 'mark-making/writing for a purpose' by sending a postcard (L). We will also be looking at various types of materials and comparing how they differ when they are made wet (UW).

Week 4 – Cars / Push and Pull

We shall continue the idea of using maps by offering the children the opportunity to make their own road layouts. Cars and planks will be used to explore the concepts of 'push' and 'pull' and the children will also be able to have a go at making their own vehicles (KU). The story of *The Enormous Turnip* will reinforce the concept of 'pulling' and will also be used to consolidate mathematical language such as big, bigger and biggest (M).

Week 5 – Boats / Sink and Float

Who Sank the Boat? and *Mr Archimedes Bath* are both delightfully humorous books, which the children will enjoy listening to (C&L and L). They will also form the basis for experimenting with the concepts of floating and sinking and displacing water (UW). The children will be experimenting with ice boats and making Treasure maps for the garden. (C & UW).

Week 6 – Aeroplanes / Up and Down

This week we will talk about the various holidays the children have been on and the mode of transport they used. In the garden children will be able to use the benches, chairs and planks to create their own aeroplanes for role-play (C, P).

Week 7 – Monday visit to Beale Park and Tuesday leavers ceremony.

Drink bottles

Please remember to name drink bottles and take them home at the end of the day.

Dates for your diary

Monday 6th June 2016 – start of term

Monday ? June (date to be confirmed) - committee meeting

Monday 4th July 2016 – 8pm committee meeting

Tuesday 5th July 2016 – parents evening

Wednesday 6th July 2016 – parents evening

Monday 11th July - Friday 15th July 2016 – Sports Challenge Week

Monday 18th July – whole Preschool outing to Beale Park (no sessions)

Tuesday 19th July – 2pm leavers ceremony (no afternoon session for non leavers)

Tuesday 19th July 2015 – last day of term

Sports Challenge Week

This year we are doing sports day slightly differently due to the number of children. We are having a sports challenge week. Every day the children get the opportunity to try a different activity and receive a sticker on their Sports Challenge Card. At the

end of the week the children will receive a certificate. Parents are welcome to come in at any point during the week and help with the challenges.

Parental help

Please sign up and come in when you can (see the sheet on the whiteboard by the entrance).

Learning Journals

For the younger children don't forget to look online at Tapestry to view your child's learning journal. You can also add comments and any home achievements such as getting dressed or riding a bike.

Harwell Feast Float

A big 'thank you' to everyone that helped with Harwell Feast this year we are delighted with our 3rd place rosette. Little Pippins relies on the support of parents for raising our profile, fundraising and being involved in the committee. Please come along to a committee meeting if you can.

Footwear

We have had a number of minor accidents with children wearing unsuitable footwear. In order for the children to safely access climbing resources – particularly our A-frame that requires a good foot grip – children need to wear reasonably robust shoes that stay on whilst climbing. No flip-flops please.

Snacks

We appreciate your contributions for snack. Fresh fruit and vegetables are always very popular and gluten free savoury snacks.

Junk Modelling

We have plenty of cardboard boxes etc for the rest of this term. We are however planning lots of letter writing so any envelopes you don't want will be much appreciated.

Also for weaving:

- Ribbons
- Gift wrap ribbon
- Feathers
- Thick wool
- Strips of brightly coloured fabric

Please send in a 2nd class stamp so that the children can send postcards home

Amy & Vicky

Curriculum Key:

C&L: Communication and Language, PSE: Personal, Social and Emotional, P: Physical, L: Literacy, M: Mathematics, UW: Understanding the World
C: Expressive Arts and Design

Books and stories

Fiction

Who Sank the Boat? – Pamela Allen

Mr Archimedes Bath – Pamela Allen

Whatever Next – Jill Murphy

The Aliens are Coming - Colin McNaughton

Little Red Train - Benedict Blathwayt

The Little House by the Sea – Benedict Blathwayt

Mrs Mopple's Washing Line – Anita Hewitt

Traditional Tales

The Enormous Turnip