



Term 4 Newsletter

2019



Welcome back to Term 4!

We have a very busy term ahead with lots of exciting things to share with the children.

Our theme will be based around 'Once Upon a Time . . .'

We will be using books, nursery rhymes and movement and music along with sharing a visit with some exciting new friends who will be coming to visit!

The term will look something like this -

Week Commencing: 25th February 2019

This week we will be using Elmer The Elephant stories to re-visit the colour mixing fascination the children had last term, looking at different shades of colour and what makes a rainbow! As always, there will be lots of messy and sensory opportunities along with creative activities.

Weeks Commencing: 4th March and 11th March 2019

These two weeks will be focused around popular stories and Nursery Rhymes with World book day on Thursday 7th March. The children are invited to dress as a character from their favourite book or Nursery Rhyme. If you would like to come and 'tell a story' or teach us some new songs, please do sign up on the parent helper rota which is now hanging up on the white boards outside the main door.

Week Commencing: 18th March and 25th March 2019

On Monday 18th March, we will be extending our *Once Upon a Time* theme to include how baby animals change and grow over time! What better way for the children to experience this but by watching first hand! We have been invited by Tom and Vicky Lay to visit the farm to meet the lambs on Monday 18th March. We will leave Pippins at 9.30am so please ensure that your child has a coat and wellies. I'm sure many of you are aware that Ewes carry a bacterium which can cause miscarriage in pregnant women. If this is something which could affect you, please ensure you visit the following link for advice - <https://www.nhs.uk/common-health-questions/pregnancy/why-should-pregnant-women-avoid-sheep-during-the-lambing-season/>. If you have any further worries please do come and have a chat with Sam.

On the 18th March, we will also be welcoming some fluffy visitors at Pippins. The children will get the opportunity to watch first-hand how a fluffy duckling will emerge from a tiny egg. The ducklings will live with us for a couple of weeks so all the children will get the chance to be part of this very exciting experience, along with learning how to take care of them.

Week Commencing: 1st April 2019

We will tie together all our learning and experiences from the term and build in some craft, cooking and games with the lead up to Easter.

World Book Day

7th March 2019 – Dress up day as favourite Nursery Rhyme or Story character.

A £1 book token will be given to each child over next week. This can be exchanged at any participating book shop. This token will allow you to either buy one of 10 specially selected books for £1 or it can be used as a £1 off token on any book.

Boogie Beats and **Yoga sessions** will continue this term. These sessions will be spread over various days each week so as many children as possible can take part.

Small Group work

We will be continuing our small group work over this term. These focused sessions allow us to work with smaller groups of children ensuring everyone gets chance to take part and be heard! These are based around developing confidence, turn taking, sharing, and listening skills.

Sabrina will lead our Spiral Groups, focusing around confidence, turn taking, sharing and listening and Hannah will be leading the 'Power Pips' Groups, focused more around independence and preparing for school. Trudie, who is now almost through her Forest School training, will lead the Outside Learning sessions. By planning in some smaller group work, it allows us to give much more specific and focused learning opportunities tailored to the children's interests and abilities. If you would like any more information, please do come and have a chat, but observations are uploaded onto Tapestry for you to share.

A few reminders . . .

Can we just remind you to let us know if your child isn't going to be at Pre-school on their allocated day. You are welcome to phone in or drop us a quick email. We do have a policy in place, so will call or email if we haven't heard anything from you within an hour of the session starting!

If your child wears wellies to Pippins, could you please ensure they have a pair of shoes/slippers for indoors as wellies aren't appropriate for indoor play.

We have moved the self-registration board this term as we are focusing on name recognition in our small group work instead. Can you ensure your child has a named water bottle each session.

Lunch boxes

As part of preparing our children who will be leaving us in July, ready to start school, we are encouraging them to be more independent at lunchtimes. We will no longer be decanting their food onto plates. This does mean that 'everything' goes straight back into their lunch boxes whether it is half eaten or not as this is what will happen at school.

Apologies if lunch boxes do come home a little messy! If food is placed in plastic bags or pots inside the lunch box, we will encourage them to place half eaten food inside these to help with any spillages.

Tapestry

Most parents now have a Tapestry account set up for their child. If you still haven't managed to activate one, please do come and have a chat so we can get this organised. Tapestry is the online journal recording all the learning and fun your child has at Pippins. It allows us to link their development to the Prime and Specific areas of learning which gives us a guide of how they are developing along with using these child led leads for planning exciting opportunities and activities.

We are aware that you as parents are unable to see the tracking information even though I have tried to change the settings to allow this! If we ever have any concerns about a child's development, we would come and have a chat, but so we can ensure you are happy with your child's tracking information, which is assessed termly, we will be printing this for you just before we break up for Easter. When we return, we will be holding **parents' evenings** - more information to follow but these will be spread over two days 29th/30th April, depending on who your Key Person is. You will be able to book an appointment to discuss how your child is getting on and we will go through their Tapestry account with you. We always love feed back from you or to see what your child has been getting up to at home. You are very welcome to upload your own observations onto your child's account and we will track these into the areas of learning to give a holistic picture of their development.