



Brecknock Primary School

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Tuesday, 18 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a great start to the new term, with children picking up from where they left off in their learning. The Nursery team hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas holidays and you were able to spend some time with family and friends. The children have returned joyful and refreshed, ready for the new term ahead. This term is filled with many exciting projects, themes and activities. Our first topic this term is 'Animals and Habitats' where we will make links between different animals and their homes and the similarities between them. After half term our topic is 'Messy Melting'. We will make potions, think about solids and liquids and use vocabulary to talk about what we have made.



We continue our whole school theme, **Time to Talk; Time to Change**, where we will continue to develop our oracy skills to help us make positive changes in our community and beyond. We are looking forward to the chance to showcase our developing speaking skills on **World Speech Day** later in the term.

We will also be commemorating **Martin Luther King Day** and **Holocaust Memorial Day** this month, thinking about rights, promoting **equality and social justice**.

### Rights Respecting Children

As a **Gold Rights Respecting school**, we consistently focus on the rights of the child and how these help us to develop an understanding of respect and empathy for others. At the start of this term, every class has created their class charter, underpinned by the Brecknock school values.

Who do I want to be?		
Giving	Healthy	Curious

In class, the children are praised for excellent work, participation and following the class charter and whole school values. Children are rewarded with stickers linked to the school value they have demonstrated. These values are celebrated at the end of each day.

### Values focus

One of our whole school resolutions is to focus more on being **healthy**, one of our important school values. As part of this focus we will be developing children's understanding of how to be and stay healthy, including discussions about healthy eating, the importance of physical activity, sleep and looking after their mental well-being.



As you may already know, as part of this we will be taking steps to becoming a water only school and we will send out information about other initiatives we are taking to become even healthier.

### Learning in Nursery

The **attached leaflet and learning planner** gives you an overview of the learning that will be taking place this term in your child's year group.

All classes in EYFS use **Learning Planners** to support children to learn, remember and recall key facts about their topics. The learning planners will be sent to you at the beginning of each term via Parent Hub. Please also look out for 'This week in Butterflies' on Parent Hub and our noticeboard; this gives you detailed weekly information about what we're up to!

### Attendance and Punctuality

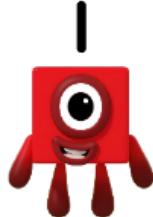
We understand that reaching 100% daily attendance is challenging at this time. **We encourage you to monitor your child's attendance using Parent Hub to ensure their attendance remains excellent. Please ensure you download the Parent Hub App to access your child's profile.**

We send the majority of the schools communications via email, including the newsletter which is sent every Thursday and uploaded to the school website. Letters for trips, dinner money and anything in relation to finance is sent via your ParentPay account. We also send short messages that we need to communicate with you quickly through the Parent Hub app.

**The school gates open at 8:50am in order for lessons to start at 9.00am. Please ensure you follow the one way systems in place to allow for social distancing.**

### Home Learning

<b>Home Learning</b>	<p>Please ensure your child comes to school every day with their book bag. Your child can change the picture story book as often as required and we do encourage this!</p> <p>As part of the Early Years curriculum and your child's physical development, this term we are continuing to focus on your child becoming as independent as possible. Please do support and encourage your child at home to use the toilet independently as well as encouraging them to dress and undress on their own.</p> <p>As part of their personal, social and emotional development, we will be encouraging your child to talk about their feelings. We will be teaching them new vocabulary such as sad, happy, excited, worried, angry, tired, calm. Please encourage your child to talk about their feelings and to explain why they feel the way they do.</p>
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	In EYFS the children will be learning poems and songs regularly as this will help develop their oracy skills. We will share these with you as your child may enjoy performing them for you.
<b>Reading</b> 	<b>Parental and guardian support</b> is hugely important for developing reading skills, confidence and understanding. We encourage parents to read with their children and discuss the books they are reading. When reading stories with your child, encourage your child to look at the front cover of a book. Ask them questions such as:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do they think the book will be about?</li> <li>• Why do they think this?</li> <li>• Encourage your child to talk about the pictures in the story book.</li> <li>• Who is in the story?</li> <li>• What is happening?</li> <li>• Where is it happening?</li> </ul> <p>This will help your child answer 'who, what and where' questions supporting the development of their comprehension skills. You can challenge your child further by asking them 'why' and 'how' questions.</p>
<b>Fluency in maths</b> 	In the Nursery, supporting your child with the following will help to develop your child's fluency in maths. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing their counting skills to 10.</li> <li>• Helping your child to represent numbers using their fingers e.g. holding up 3 fingers to represent the number 3.</li> <li>• Supporting your child with recognising numbers to 5 and beyond.</li> <li>• Enabling your child to count one object at a time slowly so that your child counts with accuracy. We call this one-to-one correspondence, a vital skill in mathematics.</li> </ul> Enabling your child to see numbers, learning to say how many objects there are without needing to count these. We call this subitising.
<b>New words</b> 	<b>Direct vocabulary teaching takes place every day.</b> Each Friday, children choose one of their new words to wear on a sticker. We encourage you to speak to your child about their chosen word each week as this will help them to deepen their understanding of the word and to develop their oracy skills!

Reading books and reading records should be kept in the book bag as these are used/referred to regularly in class. Letters for trips and other correspondence will be issued through Parent Hub. Newsletters are sent via Parent Hub every Thursday and will also appear on the website.

## PE

PE will take place every **Friday**. Children **will not be changing for PE** so please ensure they wear appropriate clothes for physical activity on these days, including trainers.

Please see below, a list of key dates. These will be updated when necessary and we will share any updated via the newsletter and the notice board by the school office. As always, we are available at pickup to discuss any queries at the end of each school day.

Kind regards,  
The Nursery Team