

Tiny Tigers Preschool



Term 4 - 2020 STRIPES Newsletter



Welcome to the STRIPES (Starting Transition Ready In Preparation for Entering School) newsletter. Here you will receive information each term of the activities that we will be undertaking for your older children, and getting them ready for the transition to "big school". Of course this is a long way off yet and we work very closely with the reception class teacher to find out what will be expected of your child when they move up to Reception.

Routine of the session

- 1.15pm - registration and carpet time to discuss letter sounds etc
- 1.30pm - free play and adult initiated activities including mark making, PE sessions and ICT sessions
- 2.30pm - tidy up time/drink and biscuit
- 2.40pm - whole group story time
- 2.50pm - outside play before going home (weather permitted- if not story time will continue)
- 3.00pm - Home time

Physical development

The children will also take part in PE sessions in the school hall which will include music and movement as well as taking part in sport activities. When we spoke to the reception she told us that one of the main things the children need to be able to do when they start "big school" is to get changed for PE independently.

We therefore ask if you could provide your child with a pair of shorts/tracksuit bottoms, a t shirt and a pair of trainers in a named bag.

P.E Sessions will take place on the following dates this term:

- 6th March

Understanding the world: technology

Once every four weeks we will have a technology afternoon at preschool for the children to acquire basic skills in turning on and operating some ICT equipment, including tablets, remote control toys, cameras, toy electronic keyboards, torches, radios and karaoke machines. We also talk about ICT apparatus, what it does, what they can do with it and how to use it safely including how to stay safe when using the internet.

Literacy: reading

Throughout this term we will be discussing main story settings, events and characters. We will be looking at how a story is structured; beginning, middle and end and think of different ways that a story could end. We will be looking at the print, and that in English it is read from left to right and top to bottom.

Letters and sounds

Letters and Sounds is a phonics resource published by the Department for Education and Skills in 2007. It aims to build children's speaking and listening skills in their own right as well as to prepare children for learning to read by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. It sets out a detailed and systematic programme for teaching phonic skills for children starting by the age of five, with the aim of them becoming fluent readers by age seven.

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| <i>Phase One</i> (Nursery/ Reception) | Activities are divided into seven aspects, including environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body sounds, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds and finally oral blending and segmenting. |
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Literacy: Writing

Lots of children of pre-school age are too young to have established whether they are right or left handed and have not yet developed their motor skills for writing. Learning to write too soon, with incorrect letter formation and pencil grip can hinder their future progress in literacy. You may notice at home that your child will swap hands from left to right and this is known as the "cross over" or "mid point" as they have not yet developed the right and left hemisphere of their brains. Whereas, as adults we move the paper, children have not reached that concept and will move their hands. Therefore, during our Friday afternoon sessions we encourage the development of fine motor skills through a combination of gross motor skills activities such as drawing, painting, colouring, tracing, threading, cutting, construction, play dough, streamers with music and model making.

We hope that you find the above information helpful and please encourage any activities with your children at home. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the Friday afternoon sessions please come and speak with Natalie or Claire W.