

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2010

**RE: Pre-school Term 4 Week 1 & 2 Update**

Dear parents/carers,

**THEME FOR THIS TERM**

Our theme for the start of this term is Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes. Over the coming few weeks our children will be looking at a range of fairy tales exploring character, storytelling and moral. We will be using drama and teacher in role techniques to introduce the children to characters from the stories and to give them the opportunity to ask the characters questions, offer them advice and in some cases, jump inside the imaginary world of the stories and respond to scenarios and events. This will provide the children with some concrete learning experiences, in which they will make decisions, problem solve and feel the emotions of the characters in the tales.

As well as this we will be doing art and craft related to the stories, creating storyboards based on the tales, making up our own fairy tales and nursery rhymes and continuing to cook and work on our Jolly phonics programme.

**LIBRARY BOOKS**

Just a quick reminder that library books must be returned to pre-school before your child can bring home a new book. We currently have a number of books missing among Butterfly children so please check the list attached and return as soon as possible.

**PORTFOLIOS**

We are still waiting for several portfolios to be returned from last term. Can parents and carers please return portfolios to pre-school within the next week.

**RECYCLING IN PRE-SCHOOL**

We need your help to keep our supply of junk modelling materials well stocked up. Please bring items such as cereal boxes, yoghurt pots, egg cartons, plastic bottles, small cardboard boxes, etc to pre-school for our junk modelling area. I am sure you have all seen the wonderful fairy tale castle that the children made last week. This week we are making a gingerbread house and any chocolate wrappers or shiny paper would be very much appreciated.

We would also appreciate any old and not too large clothes for dressing up in our role play area. Bags, hats, scarves, junk jewellery are also needed so if you are doing some tidying up in preparation for the festive season, please do not hesitate to pass any recycling to us.

**CULTURAL DAY**

Knowledge and understanding of the world is a very important part of your child's development and to support your child in this area we will be having another cultural day on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. On this day we will be raising awareness of a range of different cultures using costume, music, food and stories from around the world. We would ask that all children wear a costume or dress piece

from their culture or another culture and it would be great if everyone could bring either a small plate of food from their culture for sharing or a storybook, object or some music.

### **BUTTERFLY GRADUATION**

At the end of the year most of our Butterflies will be moving up to Kindergarten and we would like to invite all Butterfly parents to come and celebrate with us in sharing just a few of their achievements this year and to reflect on their learning journey so far.

Graduation will be taking place in week 9, exact day and time yet to be confirmed. Please keep your diaries close at hand for confirmation!

### **END OF YEAR PRE-SCHOOL PARTY**

We will be having an end of year party for pre-school on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 1.30pm. All pre-schoolers are invited on this day regardless of whether it is their scheduled day. We will need some parents and carer support on the day to maintain an adequate adult to child ratio. Please speak to Jade or a member of the team if you would like to help out.

### **NEW STARTERS**

If you are a new pre-school family and you would like to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss settling and progress please do not hesitate to book an appointment with either Ms Chitra or myself.

### **TRANSITIONS**

Butterflies will be spending some time in Kindergarten this term to prepare them for the changes they will face next year. Children will join Kindy for timed sessions in small groups to become familiar with their new teachers and the environment. In addition to this, Butterflies will be joining the rest of the school for lunch time recess once a week to familiarise them with being around the older children in a large group scenario. In class we are also giving Butterflies roles of leadership in the room such as table monitor, book area monitor and hat monitor. This is to encourage independence and to develop a sense of ownership around environment, personal property, etc.

### **CHALLENGING BEHAVIOUR PARENT WORKSHOP**

Due to recent demand I will be running a challenging behaviour workshop for pre-school parents on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 3.30-4.30pm. This will be an informal training session designed to assist parents who are currently struggling with their child's behaviour.

If you are interested in attending, please sign up with Jade in the Butterfly room.

Have a wonderful week.

Kindest Regards

Jade Peter-Swain and the pre-school team