

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new year! We hope you all had a wonderful time over the holidays and enjoyed spending time with your loved ones. We look forward to hearing from the children about what you got up to!

This week we are pleased to welcome Mrs Cox-Wilson to the Early Years team. She is looking forward to getting to know Gosling class over the coming weeks. Do say hello and welcome her if you see her!

On Friday we have a very special visit from the Fire Brigade to introduce our new topic, 'People who help us'. If any of you have a job that helps people and you are able to come in and talk to the children, or even upload a short video to tapestry, please come and speak to one of us.

Phonics:- We will be learning the phoneme (sounds the letters make): oo as well as reviewing the phonemes we learnt last term. Please remember that you can practise recognising the phonemes by showing your child the sound that is printed at the back of their reading record book. Please ensure your child is reading at home every day and you are signing their reading record book.

Maths:- We will be recapping number formation and learning to use a 5 frame.

Forest School:- This will begin on Thursday 11th January. Each Thursday the children will come into school in their forest school clothing, which they will wear all day. We will help them to change into their wellington boots at school so they should wear a pair of shoes to school, for example trainers or normal school shoes.

In addition to the Forest School sessions, we have introduced a digging area outside. We would therefore like all children to have a **pair of wellies that they will keep at school**. Please send these in as soon as you can, clipped together with a named clothes peg. Please remember to name the wellies too! There are lots of wellies in charity shops and available second hand, so please do not feel you have to buy a new pair. We are really grateful to the Friends of Manby Lodge who have enabled us to purchase the equipment needed for us to develop a digging area.

At home you could:

Currently, your child should know how to read the following HRSWs: I, the, no, put, of, is, to, go, into, pull, as, his, he, she, buses, we, me, be, push, was, her.

There are many ways you can practise recognition of these words - not just in their reading books! Below are a few ideas to get you started...

- Spot the words in books when being read to at night time
- Stick the words up the stairs for children to read
- Play the matching game (turn HRSW cards upside down, then children have to find matching pairs)
- Copy / write the words in soapy bubbles, rice, flour, mud etc.
- Sing the following songs -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvMyssfAUx0> , <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R087IYrRpgY>

Diary Dates:-

Friday 5th January - Fire Brigade Visit

Wednesday 10th January - PE lessons begin

Thursday 11th January - Forest School sessions begin

Notices:

- Please ensure all of your child's items are clearly labelled.
- Please send wellies into school, clipped together with a named peg.
- We are still collecting any donations of junk modelling, such as kitchen roll tubes, bottles. **We cannot accept egg cartons, milk containers or any packaging that contains nuts.**

Thank you
Reception Team