

WEEKLY PARENT Information NEWSLETTER – Reception 9 February 2015

- **PTC meetings** - PTC meetings will take place on **Tuesday 10** and **Thursday 12 February**, not November as is written on the sign-up sheet. We will not reissue the letter but ask you to complete and return the sign-up sheet, indicating your preference for a meeting on Tuesday or Thursday. Thanks for your understanding.
- **Chinese New Year Day** - Friday 13 Feb – come to school in Chinese costume or wearing red.
- **Junk modeling Boxes** - Thank you to those of you who have been sending in boxes and bottles, cardboard tubes and tops, **please keep sending them in!**



Learning Theme: Ten Days of Chinese New Year!

We will be looking at the traditions and stories of Chinese New Year this week alongside our fantastic Mandarin teachers who will help us appreciate this special time in the Chinese calendar and share with us what it means to them.

We will be learning the story of the 12 animals crossing the river which explains the how each year gets its animal name and the order. We will be thinking about others and the 'hongbao', giving special tokens with our class groups to show friendship and also writing wishes for our Wishing Tree; a traditional activity for which we will encourage the children to think about their friends and families in the coming year. The Reception Cubs will also be exploring some Chinese music and choosing a traditional dance style based on – fan dancing, tai chi, sword dancing or dragon! Each dance group will then be working together to create a routine to share with the rest of the Reception Cubs on Friday's 'Red Day' in our very own showcase – 'Dancing with the Emperors'. Our fantastic Learning Assistants will be our judges as each group performs its Chinese inspired dance.

Through our continuous provision the children will be invited to make dumplings, use chopsticks, make Chinese New Year cards and hong bao and some props for their dances too.

The Big Question will be:

'How will we celebrate Chinese New Year?

Vocabulary: Chinese New Year, celebrate, wish, friends, family, music, dance, move, forward, backwards, turn, performance,

Development outcomes

- *Understanding the World: They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions*
- *Communication and Language: Children follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.*
- *Physical Development: They handle equipment and tools effectively*



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THEY CAN BE

- *Children show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements.*
- *They move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space.*
- *Expressive Arts: Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them.*
- *Literacy: Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds.*
- *They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others.*

Phonics

The Pufferfish group will recap all the phase three sounds they have learnt so far and will add three new sounds ure (sure), oi (boil) and er (surfer). They will be using these to help them read and write a variety of different words

The Shark group will be recapping their previous sounds and will be using the sounds sh and ch to practise writing words and reading and writing new words.

The Octopus group will continue to recap the phase two sounds that they have learnt so far and focusing on: h,b, f, ff, l,ll,ss. They will blend sounds for reading and listen for sounds for writing using simple CVC words, e.g. man, run, cog, sock, mum, but, and, etc.

The Jellyfish group will recap and learn the previous set of letters and add to it with these new letters (h and r). They will hear, say and read them.

Mathematics

Building on the work looking at days and months last week we will add to this by looking at ordinal numbers which we use in calendars and also to talk about the 12 animals in the Chinese New Year story. The pronunciation is quite tricky!

Vocabulary: Ordinal numbers 1st, 2nd, 3rd - 12th (first, second, third, etc)

Development outcomes;

Children use everyday language to talk about position, objects and to solve problems. (Ordinal numbers)

Dutch

Deze week hebben we het thema 'Kikker in de kou' afgerond. De haas heeft een heerlijke warme vacht gekregen van wil en eend heeft een bont verenpak. We hebben de korte klanken geoefend op uitspraak en klank-tekenkoppeling. De kinderen kunnen al goed de klanken /a/, /e/, /i/ en /u/ onderscheiden en het schrijven van korte woordjes (MKM-woorden) gaat steeds beter. Ook hebben we het boek en liedje 'De liefste kusjes zijn voor jou' van Harmen van Straaten gelezen en gezongen. Oh, wat was het leuk om Harmen bij ons in de klas te hebben!

Thank you for your continued support.

The Reception Team.