



# Gayhurst Community School

## Class Information for Parents / Carers

Date: 13.01.19 Mark and Monica Class: Nursery Manatee and Magpie

We will be learning about **toys** in the **Early Years Foundation Stage** for **Spring 1**. **Themes** will include favourite toys, programmable toys, old/new toys and superheroes. There are several **key skills** we will continue developing this half term in **Nursery**. These include pencil control, dressing and undressing, conflict resolution, developing vocabulary, learning new sounds and matching them to letters, blending sounds to read simple words. We will continue developing mathematical concepts such as the value of numbers and numerals, matching numerals and amounts and we will also explore money.

Our **Language Enrichment** focus will help the development of your child's vocabulary. Supported talk sessions will also help with connecting ideas, explaining what is happening, reliving experiences and being able to anticipate what might happen next. Daily **phonics** groups will support hearing and saying sounds associated with toys and objects. This is the foundation for being able to read words independently.

### Communication and Language

**We are learning to:** Use language and vocabulary which reflects the breadth of your child's experiences. For example, we will be learning about old and new toys, how and what are they made of and the use of money. Through these mini topics and stories, we will be encouraging children to continue developing their social and communication skills when playing with others, to use language to recreate roles and experiences, both real and imaginary and to learn new vocabulary.

**You can help your child at home by:**

Talking about your favourite toy as a child, tell them a tradition tale or create a story together.

### Physical Development

**We are learning to:** Improve our pencil control. We will be supporting children holding their pencil between their thumb and two fingers, and no longer using a whole-hand grasp. We will also be concentrating on using one-handed tools and equipment, e.g. makes snips in paper with child scissors. Children will also be encouraged to engage in learning experiences that requires eye hand or eye foot co-ordination, such as catching, kicking and hitting a ball.

**You can help at home by:**

Playing games such as Table Tennis, Table Football, Frisbee, Football, etc. Continue offering your child a variety of resources that encourage the development of fine motor skills, collage making, cutting activities, Lego and Playdough are always a fun and good resource.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

**We are learning to:** Accept the needs of others by taking turns and sharing resources, sometimes with support from others. We will be teaching the children to be able to negotiate and solve problems without aggression, e.g. when someone has taken their toy. They will be encouraged to take steps to resolve conflicts with other children, e.g. finding a compromise. Children will be supported in accepting boundaries and understanding expectations for behaviour, including our Stay On Green system. As always, we will be encouraging children play cooperatively in groups and accepting the needs of other children they are playing with.

**You can help at home by:**

Taking time to explain turn taking with siblings and family; using a timer can be a good visual reminder. Explain that a child must ask for adult support if another child behaves in an unkind way and encourage them to solve their conflicts by developing their "negotiating" language.

### **The specific areas :**

In **Literacy** we are learning to: Describe the main story settings, events and principal characters in the books we share. We will be looking out for familiar words and signs such as their own name and advertising logos. When children draw, paint or do 'writing' we will be asking them to give meanings to the marks they make.

You can help your child at home by: Continuing reading and sharing stories, discussing the characters and key events, also encourage your little ones to make stories up!

In **Mathematics** we are learning about: Money, You can help your child at home by: Looking and identifying numerals on coins and notes and also the environment.

In **Understanding the World** we are learning to: Operate mechanical toys, e.g. turns the knob on a wind-up toy or pulls back on a friction car. We will be observing children showing an interest in technological toys with knobs or pulleys, or real objects such as cameras or mobile phones. We are teaching the children to talk about some of the things they observe such as old and new toys, how they work and the materials they are made of.

You can help your child at home by: Exploring your childhood toys and sharing the stories behind them.

In **Expressive Arts and Design** we are learning to: Use a variety of materials and tools to create our very own toys.

You can help your child at home by: Using recyclable resources such as boxes and bottles to create and make objects and toys.

### **A message from your child's teacher:**

A big welcome to all our children, we hope you and your families had a relaxing holiday. We are really looking forward to Spring 1 and all of the excellent learning that will take place. We are all very excited about the new children and we are so looking forward to playing and learning with them!

Thank you all for supporting your children's learning at the nursery, they are very settled and are making excellent progress!

We also welcome Melissa and Shanice who have joined our team in the Nursery!

## *Early Years Foundation Stage*

### **Book Bags**

**All children have a plastic zip book bag which can be changed any day. Please feel free to choose a book from the selection in the take home trolley with your child. Please return the books in good condition as we are teaching children how to treat books respectfully.**

## **Learning Together!**

In partnership with you and the school, please share your ideas, views and your child's interests at home with us. You can do this by sharing your ideas with the class teacher, key person for your child or filling in the box below and handing it in to a member of the Foundation Stage team.

### **We Value your Contributions!**

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Date :