








Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are writing to share with you an overview of the learning opportunities that your child will be experiencing in the second half of the Spring Term in Early Years.

Our topics this half term are Space and Easter. In addition to this information, please see the class planning boards in each classroom for the ideas the children have contributed too!

<p><b>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</b></p> 	<p>Teachers will encourage children to try new activities and play cooperatively, taking into account one another's ideas about how to organise their activities.</p> <p>Teachers will continue to use daily classroom routines that the children will be able to anticipate. We will maintain the clear boundaries and expectations in the classroom and in the outside environment, talking to the children about classroom rules and why they are important.</p>
<p><b>Communication and Language Development</b></p> 	<p>Children will be listening to, and joining in with, stories read by adults in their classroom every day.</p> <p>We will be exploring and developing language and vocabulary through everyday play and new topics and themes.</p> <p>We will be encouraging children to listen and respond to ideas expressed by others in a conversation.</p>
<p><b>Physical Development</b></p> 	<p>Children will be able to play and explore in the outside environment each day, running, climbing, digging, using the bikes and scooters etc.</p> <p>We will encourage the children to develop hand eye coordination by using scissors, paintbrushes and other tools.</p> <p>We will encourage the children to become more independent when putting on and taking off jumpers, coats and wellies, as well as changing for PE in the school hall.</p>
<p><b>Literacy Reading and Writing</b></p> 	<p>Children will be encouraged to share and enjoy stories and books with each other as well as having lots of opportunities to write, draw and paint.</p> <p>Reception aged children will continue to learn, recognise and write all the letters of the alphabet. They will learn the new actions and sounds for qu, ch, sh, th and ng.</p> <p>Reception aged children will continue to read stories about Kipper and his family in our Oxford Reading Scheme books which they will bring home each week.</p>

<p><b>Mathematics Development</b></p> 	<p>Children will be practising their counting forwards and backwards, as well as saying which number is one more and one less than a given number.</p> <p>Reception aged children will be learning about pairs of numbers that give a total of 10. We will encourage children to count on and count back as they add and subtract using practical equipment.</p> <p>Children will explore and use everyday language related to weights and measures. They will develop their ability to recognise, create and describe repeating patterns.</p>
<p><b>Understanding the World</b></p> 	<p>We will be learning about space this half term. Teachers will encourage children to ask questions and to find out about space. We will be learning the names of the planets and making space rockets and space vehicles.</p> <p>Children will use the classroom computers as well as the school ipads, Beebot programmable toys and cameras.</p> <p>We will be learning about Easter as the final topic of this half term.</p>
<p><b>Expressive Arts and Design</b></p> 	<p>Children will have lots of opportunities to explore the creative areas of the classroom and will design, make and evaluate their own making, models and structures.</p> <p>We will encourage children to join in with familiar classroom songs and nursery rhymes and experiment with musical instruments.</p> <p>Children will have an opportunity to be imaginative within role play, in the home area and when using the class dressing up box.</p>

### Homework activities this half term

#### **Nursery and Reception.**

Please share books with your child from the classroom, from home and from the school library every day. Sing familiar songs and have lots of time to play games together.

Please remember that your child's book bag and water bottle should be in school every day. Your child's PE kit should stay in school for the half term. Please ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled.

At Castle Park School we value the important partnership between home and school; please use the information above to support your child with their learning over the coming weeks. If you have any questions about any of this information, please feel free to call into school and see us.

Thank you.

The Early Years Team