



North Bridge House
Nursery & Pre-Prep

North Bridge House Nursery School

Otters Spring Term Curriculum Letter January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Spring Term at NBH Nursery School.

This curriculum letter will provide information about what the Otters will be learning over the course of the term ahead. There are many events planned that you can engage in over the coming weeks including FoNBH events, trips, themed weeks: Book week and Science week. Please be sure to check the app for the spring term calendar (see 'info' section and 'calendar' section) in addition to the *Week Ahead* which is sent out each week.

Each Thursday, class teachers will publish an update on class news via the app so please do take a moment to read these.

It is promising to be another action-packed term.

Headteacher
NBH Nursery and Pre-Prep

Overview of the Spring Term in the Otters

This term your child will continue to develop their skills in the three prime areas:

- Communication and Language
- Physical development
- Personal social and emotional development



All of these areas will be developed through our new topic which will be 'A Taste of the World'

This means that your child will be fully immersed in a subject for the term with the aim of promoting deeper learning. For example all areas of learning such as Mathematics will be linked in with the around the world topic so the children will be counting fruits from around the world or comparing the amount of fruits in baskets.

During this topic children will use language and new vocabulary from books to talk about their experiences; recalling and reliving past experiences with their friends for example sharing their experiences about places they have visited on holiday or to see family members.

Phonics, Reading and Writing

Your child will have access to a wide range of mark making materials and will be encouraged to make marks, draw pictures and begin to give meaning to the marks they draw and paint.

They will have the opportunity to self select pens, pencils, crayons and paint pens to draw pictures and make marks based around their interests.

They will play rhyming and alliteration games and begin to recognise the initial sound of their own and their friends' names. For example hearing that Matt begins with 'm'.

During reading sessions your child will be encouraged to listen and join in with stories and poems, both one-to-one and in small groups. They will also learn to fill in the missing word or phrase in a known rhyme, story or game, e.g. 'Humpty Dumpty sat on a ...'.



Mathematics

Your child will begin to recognise numbers and understand that a number identifies how many objects are in a set. For example knowing that there are 6 cups on the table.

They will also begin to learn the number formation rhymes and have a go at forming some of them in sand, glitter and paint.

Your child will be encouraged to talk about the shapes of everyday objects, e.g. 'round' and 'tall' and begin to categorise objects according to properties such as shape. For example recognises that the windows on the bus are square or oranges are round. They will use money in role play for example playing with the shop and exchanging money for items. They will also be encouraged to show an interest in shape and space by making arrangements with objects for example completing puzzles or arranging objects in a dolls house.



How to help your child at home

Developing your child language and extending their vocabulary is a very important skill for them to develop to progress in their education.

Giving your child a range of experiences and discussing how things work, and why some things occur, is a great way to develop their knowledge of the world and widen their understanding and vocabulary.

For example giving commentary's about what you are doing and the reasons why.

Cutting, colouring, painting, threading and play dough are also great activities to do at home to help develop your child's fine motor skills.

You can also look for shapes and numbers in your everyday environments when you are out and about.



Mystery Reader

Mystery reader is an opportunity for you as parents to come into school and read a story to the class.

This term we would really like you to come and read traditional stories from around the world as this links with our focus for Book Week

You can sign on the sign up sheet on the door. The children will not know you are coming until you arrive.

If you would like advice on choosing a good story, please speak to Miss Obadiah who will be happy to help you.



Understanding the world



Your child will be learning about different places around the world. They will be encouraged to make comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world, such as the place where they live and other places around the world that they have visited or learnt about. For example answering questions about the climate, attractions and food.

They will also learn that they have similarities and differences that connect them to, and distinguish them from others, and begin to show an interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them.

We will be learning about the world and will focus particularly on the countries where our children originate from.



WOW Certificate

Each week someone from every class will receive a WOW Certificate for something amazing they have achieved. This certificate is celebrated in the whole school assembly and is later sent home for parents to see.

Star Baker

The children in the Otters class will continue to bake each week. After each session we will choose



Learning Leaves

Learning Leaves will be given to parents at the start of each term. This is a way for you as parents to celebrate and share one or many of your child's achievements that take place away from school with us at NBH Nursery.

If you have something you wish to celebrate, simply complete a learning leaf and send it in to school.

The leaves are read out and celebrated in assembly and added to our **Learning Tree** in the Gym so that we can all celebrate and recognise individual achievements together



Show and Tell

Children will have the opportunity to bring in something for show and tell on a weekly basis. Show and tell is really good for developing their communication skills as it provides children with a chance to explain as well as ask and answer questions. It is important however that the chosen item is something interesting and something linked to our topics. (No toys).

Please also avoid bringing expensive or special items in case of loss or damage.

Otto the Otter

Otto is our class mascot and will continue to go home with a different child each weekend. Otto has a diary in which we would like your child to record Otto's adventures!

Your child might like to take some photos, draw some pictures, or write (parents) in the diary about what they did with Otto.

Each time Otto returns to class, we will be encouraging the children to share their diary entries. Some children might feel confident enough to stand up in front of the class and share Otto's diary, whereas others might prefer to sit at a table with 3 or 4 children at a time.



Parent Child Mornings

Parent and child mornings are an opportunity for parents to come into their child's class, *and for their child* to show them their special book of work.

These will take place from 8.30 – 9.00 on the following dates: **25th March to the 29th March.**

Trips

This half term the Otters class will going to the Science Museum to explore the Garden Area.

The Garden Area is an indoor space with lots of really exciting activities.

The children will have the opportunity to climb and use a lifting mechanism to lift foam bricks and sand. They will also have the opportunity to experiment with boats in a water system and look at themselves in different mirrors that alter their appearance.

The trip will take place on Friday 13th February 2019—children will leave school at 9.30 and return by 11.45am. If you would like to come along to support this trip, please speak to Mrs Obadiah

Music

The Otters will continue with three music sessions per week, in addition to the abundance of singing that happens in the classroom. Children will be strengthening their singing voices and feeling for pulse and rhythm, and building upon their existing repertoire of simple nursery rhymes and action songs, linked with class themes. Topics to be focused on this term will be Winter and Spring sounds and songs, and

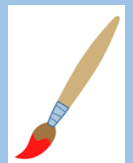
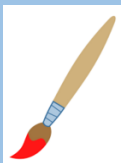
festivals, such as Chinese New Year. They will continue to develop fine motor skills through the handling of classroom percussion instruments, as well as practising the social skills of taking turns and sharing when necessary.



Art

Your child will be learning about different art from around the world.

They will be encouraged to use a variety of media and techniques to create, using their own ideas and those related to our topics.



Gym/ Games

In P.E this term children will be learning to negotiate space successfully when playing racing and chasing games with others; adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles. They will also be learning to travels with confidence and skill around, under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment.

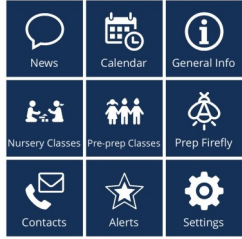


Celebrations and Festivals

This term the children will learn about **celebrations including Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Easter and Passover.**

We very much welcome parents in to school to talk about your faiths and cultures. Please speak to Mrs Obadiah if you would like to come in to school to lead a class session or an assembly.





Please be sure to have selected the appropriate channels and filters on the app to ensure that you receive the regular updates and alerts.

For example, Otters parents should check the following:

Settings / Channels / Urgent Messages for Parents of Nursery / Otters

Settings / Filters / Nursery

The General Info section contains useful information including term dates.

In conjunction with the app provider we are developing the registration and privacy aspects plus improving the speed and accessibility for devices. Further updates on progress with this will follow.

Book Week 4th—8th March

This term both the Nursery and Pre-Prep Schools will be following the theme of *Traditional Tales*.

Each class across the schools has chosen a different traditional tale to work on.

Your class teacher will soon tell you which tale has been selected for your class.

A copy of this tale will be sent home to you so that you can enjoy it together at home.

During Book Week itself, commencing 4th March, there will be a range of exciting activities, linked to our Traditional Tales theme, taking place including:

Drama & Role Play

Art- making story props, illustrations

Writing alternative versions of the class tale

Buddy reading across the schools

P4C exploring issues for example, 'Goldilocks, should she be arrested for burglary?'

Story Teller Visits

Author Visits

Dress Up Day— Thursday 7th March

Daunt Books Sale

Sponsored Fundraiser for Farms for City Children



"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."
-Dr. Seuss

We are warmly encouraging parents from all classes to come in to school across this term to read or re-tell traditional tales from around the world.

With 27+ languages spoken amongst the school community there is a real opportunity for the children to learn about other cultures through these stories.

If you would like to come in to school to read a story to your class please let your class teacher know.

It would be wonderful if these sessions started before Book Week and continued afterwards.

If you would rather send a copy of a traditional tale in for the teacher to read to the class then **please do**.

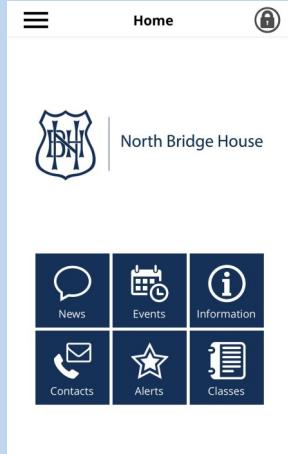
Dates for your diaries....

The best way to keep up with school events and plan ahead is to use the 'Events' section on the NBH app.

From here you can import dates straight into your own calendar

You can also download the calendar as a PDF in the 'Information' section.

Each week the 'Week Ahead' is uploaded to the app



18th January FoNBH meeting in the Pre-Prep lunch room. (All welcome)

5th February—Chinese New Year

13th February-FoNBH second hand uniform sale in the hall from 8.30-9.30

14th February— Valentines day

13th February— Otters trip to the Science Museum 9.30-11.45 am

15th February- Break up for half term (NBH Holiday Club is running)

4th March— Book Week

7th March— Dress up as a book character

7th of March— Parents' Evening

11th of March— Science week

22nd of March— Otters spring concert in the gym from 9.30am

25th of March— Parent & Child Mornings all week 08:30—09:00

4th of April— Non uniform day

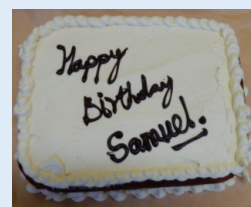
4th April—Last day of term children to finish at 11.45 am

Celebration Cakes

We like to celebrate special events and Birthdays in school.

If you would like to provide a cake for your child to share with their friends please ensure that it is **shop-bought and clearly shows that it is Nut-Free.**

Our wonderful catering team are able to create a range of delicious celebration cakes to order which are nut and seed free (gluten free options also available).



To place an order for a bespoke cake please speak to the team in the office who will provide you with an order form

Who to contact if you need help or advice

If you have any questions or queries please always speak to your class teacher in the first instance. They will be keen to help and support.

Gracie.obadiah@northbridgehouse.com

Miss Jackson is the Deputy Head Academic and can offer further advice and support with regards to teaching and learning.

amy.jackson@cognita.com

If your concern is of a pastoral or safeguarding nature then please contact Miss Kapoor, Deputy Head Pastoral and Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Nishi.kapoor@northbridgehouse.com

School Snacks

We are a Nut and Seed Free School.



There are children in the school who have severe and life-threatening allergies to nuts and seeds.

Please do not send any products into school that may contain nuts or seeds.

The school provides the following snacks daily: Fresh Fruit / Raw vegetables, Rice Cakes, Milk (optional, chargeable).

Parents may supplement this with the following: Fresh Fruit, Raw Vegetables, Cheese, Yoghurt



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