



North Bridge House
Nursery & Pre-Prep

North Bridge House Nursery School

Pre-Reception 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 Pre-Reception 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 Pre- Reception

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 the topic: 'A Taste of the World.'

This means that your child will be fully immersed in one topic for the term with the aim of promoting deeper learning and understanding.

Throughout this topic, the children will use language and new vocabulary from books to talk about their experiences; recalling and reliving past experiences with their friends.

They will also be discussing the places around the world that they have visited for example holidays or visits to family in other places of the world.

They will share and discuss key stories and use talk to anticipate what might happen next in the texts we are reading. For example answering questions and making predictions about what characters might do next.

To develop fine motor control your child will be encouraged to use basic tools and explain how to use them safely. For example they will continue to develop their scissor skills and talk about how to transport and tidy scissors away safely.

They will also be using a range of playdough utensils to roll and cut in different ways.

They will also develop further knowledge in *these* specific areas:

Mathematics

Literacy

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design



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. For example self selecting pens, pencils, paint dabbers and crayons and drawing their own pictures and describing what they are.

They will continue to learn phonemes and the graphemes to match as well as identify initial sounds in spoken words. For example knowing that cat begins with 'c'. Your child will continue to learn the letter formation rhymes and will have a go at forming them in glitter and with paint and crayons. Some children will begin to write using a pencil and will be encouraged to hold it correctly using a pincer grip. Some children may also start to blend and segment words as the term goes on. For example read simple words three letter words like 'mum' and 'dad'

During reading sessions, your child will be encouraged to listen and join in with stories and poems in small groups and as a class. They will learn to describe main story settings, events and principal characters and will begin to join in with repeated refrains in familiar stories for example joining in with phrases like 'I will huff and puff and blow your house down'. They will explore story maps for their focus texts and begin to show an awareness of how stories are structured. A story map is a picture representation of a story which is used to help develop children's story telling skills and language.



Mathematics



Your child will continue to develop good counting skills and will be encouraged to count using one to one correspondence; touching each item whilst saying the number name. They will continue counting in a line and some will be having a go at counting irregular arrangements of objects. The children who are ready will begin to count much bigger groups of objects. They will also develop an understanding that anything can be counted and will begin to count claps, jumps and objects that cannot be moved such as steps.

Your child will begin to recognise numbers and understand that a number identifies how many objects are in a set and will be working on improving these skills with bigger numbers.

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

How to help your child at home Pre-Reception

Developing your child's 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.

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

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 use the number and letter formation rhymes to help your child begin to form their letters and numbers correctly.

Name writing is also a great activity that you can do with your child at home. It's important that they can recognise and write their name when moving up to Reception. Please remember that we only use a capital letter at the start of their name.



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 like parents to read traditional stories from around the world to link with our Book Week theme.

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 selecting a story, please speak to your class teacher who will be happy to advise



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.

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

Your child will also start using ICT equipment and complete a simple programme on a computer. They will be working with an adult using the computers in the classrooms; selecting a programme and developing mouse control.

We will be discussing a range of countries. However we will be focusing on the countries where pupils families originate from.

The children will also be taking part in a sponsored walk to raise money for a school in Uganda.

WOW Certificate

Each week a child from every class will receive a WOW Certificate for something amazing he/she has achieved.

This certificate is celebrated in the whole school assembly and is later sent home for parents to celebrate.



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 in class and added to our **Learning Tree** 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.

This takes place on Fridays.

Parent & Child Mornings

Parent and child mornings are an opportunity for parents to come into their child's class and be shown by their child their child's special book of work.

These will take place at

8.30 – 9.00 on the following dates:

Monday the 25th to Friday the 29th March at 8.30-9.00.



Music

In music, Pre-Reception classes will continue to build on a repertoire of songs and singing games, often linked to class topics and key festivals and events during the Spring Term. Children will strengthen their singing voices, becoming more confident at matching the pitch of a melody as well as solo singing. There will continue to be opportunities to handle classroom instruments, as children continue to practise responding to simple musical directions.



Trips

This term Pre-Reception will be 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.

Children will leave school at 9.30 and return by 11.45pm

Trip Dates

Flamingos– 4/2/19

Tigers–7/2/19

Bears–8/2/19

Robins– 11/2/19

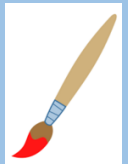
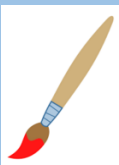
If you would like to come along to support a trip, please speak to your class teacher.

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 art 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 travel 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 your child's class teacher 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, Pre-Reception parents should check the following:

Settings / Channels / Urgent Messages for Parents of Nursery / Pre-Reception / Class name

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)

28th January – Flamingos parent literacy workshop 9.00-9.45am

29th January- Robins-parent literacy workshop 9.00-9.45am

30th of January – Tigers parent literacy workshop 9.00-9.45am

4th February—Flamingos trip to the Science Museum 9.00-11.45am

5th February—Chinese New Year

7th February—Tigers trip to the Science Museum 9.00-11.45am

8th February—Bears trip to the Science Museum 9.00-11.45 am

11th February -Robins school trip to the Science Museum.

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

14th February— Valentines day

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

1st February - Bears parent literacy workshop 9.00-9.45am

4th March— Book Week

7th March—**Dress up as a book character**

7th March— Parents' Evening 3.30-7pm

11th March— Science week

20th March— Robins and Flamingos Spring Term concert 9.30am

20th March— Bears and Tigers Spring Term Concert 10.45am

25th of March— Parent & Child mornings all week

4th of April— Non uniform day

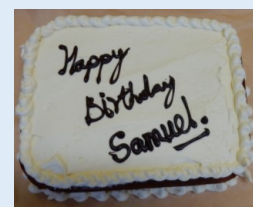
4th April—Last day of term children to finish at 11.45 am

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 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.

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

Amy.jackson@northbridgehouse.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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