

**Streatham Wells Nursery Newsletter**  
**January 2011**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by welcoming all those parents/carers and children who are new to the nursery and welcoming back those who are returning after the winter break.

I would like to tell you a little bit about what your child will be doing at the school over the next half term and what parts of the curriculum we will be covering.

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

This half term is a 'settling in' period for many new children to the nursery so our primary focus is to ensure that all children, both new and those returning, feel positive about their separation from home. Throughout the half term the children will be learning to follow the routines within the nursery and to access resources independently. For those children who are no longer new to the nursery, the focus will be on accepting the needs of others and linking up with other children to give support and guidance.

**Communication, Language and Literacy**

This half term we will be playing games to help the children with their listening skills, for example listening to different sounds and distinguishing one from another. We will be encouraging new children to communicate using simple statements and questions. The children will be reading a wide range of stories during the daily story time.

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

- enjoying books together
- encouraging them to look at the pictures and talk about them
- encouraging them to talk about aspects of the story that they enjoyed

**Mathematical Development**


This half term we will continue to focus on counting, through number songs and rhymes, in our daily carpet session. We will also be playing games that encourage the children to look at numerals so that they can start to recognise numerals 1 to 5 and beyond. Shape and position will also be a focus through shape puzzles, construction activities and simple instruction games.

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

- encouraging them to recognise numbers in their environment e.g. on a door, when shopping, on the front of a bus
- pointing out shapes in their immediate environment
- using positional language when giving them instructions e.g. please put the chair *under* the table

**Knowledge and Understanding of the world**

For new children there will be a heavy focus on allowing them to familiarise themselves with their new surroundings and learning where everything is kept in the nursery. All children will be given a new tidying up job to do which they will learn how to do with another child. We will be practising acquiring basic skills for a range of ICT equipment including cameras, programmable toys and basic programs on the computer.





**Physical Development**

We will continue to have our music and movement sessions on a **Tuesday** for **morning** children and a **Friday** for **afternoon** children. Please can you ensure that on this day your child wears shoes that are easy to get on and off. During our music and movement time, the children will be encouraged to use movement to express their feelings. They will also be introduced to a variety of games which will involve negotiating space and adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles.

**Creative Development**

This half term we will be working creatively on both a small and large scale. The children will be learning to differentiate colours, exploring what happens when they mix colours and choosing particular colours to use for a purpose. We will continue to have our popular 'messy table' in the nursery where children can take part in messy play activities such as writing in shaving foam and scooping and pouring a variety of things such as rice and beans .

**Winter clothes reminder:**

If your child is coming into school with their own gloves and scarf please can you make sure that they have their name clearly labelled on these items. If you cannot find an item at the end of a session, please have a look on the benches underneath the pegs before coming to ask one of the nursery members of staff. That is where we usually find them!

**Please donate!**

A big thank you to the parents and carers who regularly donate junk modelling materials to the nursery. We always need a whole host of other resources that you may not know about, mostly for messy play. The following are always welcome: uncooked pasta and rice, corn flour, cereals, flour and couscous. This list is by no means final and I would welcome any donations of items that your children love playing with at home that I may not have thought of!

**Nursery Voluntary Fund**

Thank you to all the parents and carers who contribute to the nursery fund. This money goes towards buying valuable resources for the nursery, such as ingredients for cooking activities. For those of you who aren't sure, the money box for the fund is on the wall by the front door. All contributions greatly appreciated!

**Please inform us in advance if someone we do not know is picking your child up from nursery.**

Please do not hesitate to speak to Bunmi, Shireen, Amanda or myself if you have any problems or queries.

Many thanks,

