

# Nursery Learning Letter: Term 1



Dear Parent/Carer,

September 2016

Welcome to Term 1 in Mid Calder Nursery. I hope you have all had a peaceful and relaxing summer, and are now feeling refreshed. This term the children are enjoying settling in to the nursery. They are getting to know new friends and new staff. We are confident your child will feel happy and secure in the nursery and will aim to provide a variety of experiences and opportunities that will help your child become a confident, lifelong learner, by capitalising on their individual strengths and qualities. We look forward to an exciting term.

Mrs Murray, Mrs Diamond, Mrs Aikman and Mrs Findlay.

## Planning

Our planning comes directly from the children and the things they show an interest in. Using quality observations the children are fully involved in the planning process, through floor books and learning walls. Look out for our learning wall in our entrance area that will be coming soon. This will detail the learning focus within the nursery and the direction the children want to take it. Please feel free to add your own ideas to this or note down any activities that you have completed at home with your child that links to the aspect of learning.

## Literacy

Within the nursery the children will experience a variety of literacy skills. These can be supported at home:-

### Writing

- Recognition of their name
- Begin to write their name
- Encourage correct pencil hold
- Painting, colouring in, threading, play dough and finger gym are all activities that help their fine motor control



### Reading

When reading regularly with your child please point out and discuss the following:-

- Title, author, illustrator
- The front and back of the book
- Where to start to read and the direction you follow when reading
- Discuss the pictures and story, listen to your child's ideas about the story and why they liked it
- Play letter and sound games

### Games to play

- Eye Spy
- Rhyming songs and stories
- Looking at sounds at the beginning of words
- Magnetic letters and boards
- Use lots of different materials to write with

### Reasons for reading and writing

- Shopping lists
- Notes
- Cards

## Numeracy

Within the nursery the children will experience a variety of numeracy skills. These can be supported at home:-

- Counting on and back in ones 0-10, orally, using number tracks and starting and stopping at different points
- Reading numbers 0-10 – practice in environment
- Begin to write numbers 0-10
- Positioning and ordering numbers 0-10
- Smaller and larger numbers
- Counting collections by touching, moving, putting in to rows and without touching

Suggested activities:-

- Count going up/down stairs
- Count buttons on clothes
- Count red cars
- Numbers on buses
- Number songs –1,2,3,4,5, Five currant buns, Five Little Men in a flying Saucer
- Number Games – Snakes and Ladders, Dominoes, Orchard Toys
- Websites –Top Marks, cbeebies



## Nursery Hours

### AM Core Hours:-

Mon-Thurs 8.40am until 11.10am

Friday 8.40am until 11.25am

### Extended Hours:

**Breakfast Club – 8.05am – 8.40am**

**After Nursery Friday 11.25 – 11.33am**

### PM Core Hours:-

Mon-Thurs 11.55am until 3.05pm

### Extended Hours:

**After Nursery 3.05pm – 3.50pm**

## Whole School Context

The whole school is focusing on Living the Values which include being Inclusive, Friendly, Responsible, Respectful, Successful, and Enthusiastic. The nursery have been looking closely at the value 'Friendly' and we have worked hard to create our 'Nursery Class Charter' which is displayed in the nursery.

## Clothing

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing and footwear for both indoor and outdoor play. Please also mark your child's clothing with their name.

### Snack

Remember to mark off on the register that you have paid your snack money. This can be paid weekly (£1) or in blocks.