



Apple Class Nursery News



Spring Term 2 2020

Welcome to the Spring 2 Apple Class Newsletter. We hope you are well rested and ready for a busy half term. We'll be packing a lot in but hopefully having lots of fun along the way. Please take some time to read the information in this newsletter so that you know what will be going on in Apple Class over the next few weeks.

Children learn as they play and play is at the core of our curriculum in Apple Class. We provide a range of play-based provocations and encourage the children to engage with these. As staff, we spend a large proportion of our time joining children in their play, encouraging communication and language development. We encourage children to be curious, to ask questions, to spot things that are happening and to be imaginative.

Our main theme for this half term is 'people that help us.' Learning through play and hands on experiences are the best ways to learn. People who help us is the perfect topic to try and get real life experiences for children. We'll be looking closely at different occupations and job roles (police, fire fighters, doctors, dentists, vets, librarians, postal service, bin service etc). If you're in a job role that fits this topic and would like to come into school to talk to the children about your role, please let us know! We would love to hear from you! Alternatively, if you do not wish to come into school but can provide any resources that the children can use we would welcome those instead. Thank you!

There are many skills that we will be focusing on over the half term and beyond. It would be great if you could reinforce these skills at home! These include...

Speaking in full sentences

Practice independence when dressing for the outdoor environment (we will be going outside in all weathers)

Clap rhythms in words and phrases and listening to the initial sound in words

Follow instructions

Ask and answer questions

Hold pens and pencils with thumb and first two fingers to make shapes, lines and to trace letters in our names

5 simple ways that you can learn with your child this half term

- Talking and walking - go for a little wander in our community and see what you discover and observe what you see! Do you hear a siren? What could this be? Can you hear the bin wagon? Let's take a look. Is that the postlady? That's the doctors - what happens there?

- To help reduce waste in our area, can you recycle one thing, re use one thing and repair one thing?
- In an emergency you will need to know your name and address.
With a bit of help, can you learn this?
- Some of you may already know the names of the local people who help us - if you don't , can you find out the names of people who help us in our community? (Dentist / post man / bin man / doctor, vet etc)
- Read and sing! Read many stories related to our theme and make up your own.
Sing new nursery rhymes - we can't wait to hear some!

Our usual reminders:

At the moment we have a lot of lost property including cardigans, jumpers, hats and gloves. A lot of these items are WITHOUT names. Unfortunately, without a name it does make it so much harder to find! Also, if you do happen to have something that does belong to someone else, please return it to school asap. Thank you!

Swansfield Park are a nut free school and we would like to remind parents (particularly those bringing in packed lunches) that products containing nuts (e.g. peanut butter/chocolate spread) are not allowed. If you wish to donate any junk modelling materials, they cannot say "may contain nuts".

As most of you are aware, many children have been off poorly recently with coughs / viruses, as they can spread extremely quickly. Can we please remind carers and parents that if your child is poorly, the best place for them is to be at home resting (so they can recover, and to ultimately stop the spread of germs). If your child has sickness and diarrhoea, they should be off school for a minimum of 48 hours (from when they last vomited.)

Home Learning

This half term we will be talking about the children's love of books (with links to World Book Day). So we would like your child to draw a picture of their favourite book/character so we can make a display. We would appreciate as many responses as possible as we feel it is important for children to associate learning not just with school, but home as well. We really appreciate the fantastic response to the previous shared learning tasks!

World Book Day is Thursday 3rd March. Please come dressed as your favourite story character. This could be the perfect time to bring in your shared learning task!

A huge thank you to parents who are regularly adding photographs onto their child's learning journal. By doing this you are allowing us to build a wider whole picture of your child's knowledge and understanding. If you would like further guidance as to what you should be adding, please speak to either of us. If you are still having trouble viewing your child's journal, please let us know!

A reminder to parents that we write a weekly blog. This is always up and ready to view by the end of the school day on Friday. It's on the school website, under class pages and it gives a little insight of what we've been up to during the week.

Now for the fun to begin... A visit from Postman Pat awaits us!

Beth Whitlow and Anne-Maire Grimes

bethany.whitlow@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk

anne-marie.grimes@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk