

# EYFS TOPIC NEWSLETTER



## Spring Term 2024 You Shall go to the Ball (4 weeks)



During this topic, the children will be reading various fairy tales, with a particular focus on the story of 'Cinderella.' The 'sparkly starter' will involve the children receiving an invitation from Prince Charming to 'The Grand Ball'. This is an extremely exciting opportunity for the children and they are always eager to practise their ballroom dancing, as princes and princesses, in preparation for the ball. The children will be learning the ball dance during their PE lessons ready to perform to parents on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January**. We will write to you closer to the time to inform you of the time of your child's dance.

Throughout this topic, the children will continue to write words and begin to write sentences, retelling stories and describing fairy tale characters. The children will continue to practise cursive letter formation during their handwriting sessions and use this in their independent writing.

In maths, the children will be taught to recognise different representations to ten, compare two numbers up to ten and begin to find number bonds to ten.

## Home Learning Activity

For the children's home learning, we would like them to share fairy tales with you and choose their favourite one. We would like the children to use their imaginations to create something relating to that particular fairy tale. They might like to write about their favourite character, draw a picture of their favourite character, create a collage or make something from the story. The children will be given the opportunity to share their home learning with their class in school and all home learning efforts will be awarded with a certificate. Please ensure your child's home learning is sent into school by **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January**.

# Around the World (3 Weeks)

The following topic, before we break up for half term, will be 'Around the World'. During this topic, we will be reading the story of 'Meerkat Mail' where a meerkat travels around different parts of the world. The children will be learning about Australia and looking at the similarities and differences compared to England. We will also be learning about Chinese New Year and exploring the Great Wall of China on Google Earth. The children will also learn about the artist Bisa Butler and will have the opportunity to recreate art using similar techniques and resources.

## Sound books/ Home Learning Challenges

Over the next couple of weeks, the children will bring home their sound books with the remaining sounds to practise at home. Once we have completed all of the sounds, you can keep your child's sound book at home to practise the sounds and keywords when you wish. We will then begin to send home weekly 'home learning challenges' in their bookbags. Please complete these with your child and send the completed activities back into school by the following Thursday – we will put these in your child's folder at school.

## Focus Author

Each half term, we learn about an author and read a range of their books. So far, we have learnt about Julia Donaldson and Oliver Jeffers. This half term, our focus author is **Mary Hoffman** who wrote various books, including 'Amazing Grace' and 'Big Book of Families'. It would be fantastic if you could share any books by this author at home or visit the local library to borrow books by this author.

## Diary Dates

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Children return to school

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January - Home learning due date

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January – Non-school uniform for MYTIME charity

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January – Grand ball dance performance to parents – letter to follow

*Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Safer Internet Day*

*Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – PTA Smarties tube challenge begins – letter to follow*

*Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Children break up for half term*

## ***P.E. – Dance***

*During this topic, the children will be learning to 'ballroom dance'.*

*PE/Dance days are as follows:*

*Monday – Caterpillars*

*Tuesday – Froglets*

*Thursday – Ducklings (please note that this is a change from last half term)*

*Please help us to keep your child safe by removing their earrings on PE days, otherwise they will be unable to take part in these sessions. Please also ensure that if your child has long hair that it is tied back; their PE kit is in school and that their clothes are clearly labelled with their name. Please check that each part of their kit is named every time their PE bag is sent home, as labels can often fall/wash out. Your child's PE kit will go home with them on their PE day weekly, as this will also be their forest school day. Therefore, please return it ready for the following week's session.*

*Thank you for your continued support.*

***The Early Years Team***

***Miss Bridgman, Mrs Ford, Mrs Haddrell, Mrs Steinwartz, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Leslie, Mrs Purbrick, Ms Tarasenko, Mrs Cross, Miss Lewis, Mrs Vivas, Mrs Khamis, Mrs Watt and Mrs Thomas-Smith***