



Jessie Younghusband School

Year R – Curriculum Letter – Autumn Second Half Term



Wow, what a busy first half term we had in Year R! The children thoroughly enjoyed our learning based around the topic of 'Food, Glorious Food!' This was explored through some well-known traditional stories, such as 'The Little Red Hen', 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'The Enormous Turnip'. Links were also made to Autumn and Harvest.

It looks like a lot of fun was had at home creating food faces for your child's 'Take-Away' task. Thank you to everyone who has emailed these in already. If you have not found time to do so, please email them to: deputy@jys.org.uk as soon as possible, as we would like to print out the photos and add them to your child's learning journal.



Thank you for all of your support helping to settle the children in the morning when they arrive. Now that they are all happy, settled and familiar with the routine, we would like to develop their independence and would appreciate you helping us with this. It would be wonderful if you could let your child come into the classroom, from the cloakroom, on their own. This will enable us to get the children settled to their 'Funky Fingers' activities promptly.



We are looking forward to welcoming you to a 'Stay and Play' session on Wednesday 16th or Monday 21st November. During this session, you will get the chance to participate in some 'Funky Finger' and 'Disco Dough' activities with your child. We will also give you an opportunity to look through their Learning Journal with them. We hope that this will give you a chance to reflect upon their first term at school as well as allowing time to record some of your thoughts about their learning on speech bubble shaped post-it notes.



Speaking of photos, we are hoping to email you with an electronic picture file of our class photo by the beginning of next week. If you have not already done so, please sign up on the order form in the cloakroom, record your email address and place the money for your order in an envelope marked 'Year R class photo' – cheques are made payable to 'JYS School Fund'. Thank you.

Friday 18th November is Children in Need and we will be having a morning of fun activities to raise money for this worthwhile cause. Please provide your child with a £2 contribution; this will enable them to have their face/hand painted, buy a cake, and fill our giant Pudsey with coins. As the children move through the school, they become more responsible for their own money, however in Year R we have found that collecting a £2 contribution at the beginning of the day ensures that the children enjoy the event without having to worry about where their money is or how much things cost. Thank you in advance for your support with this!



Please find attached to this letter the topic overview for the second half of this term. Once again this is set out as a jigsaw and shows how the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is organised into seven areas of learning and links to our 'Fire and Ice!' topic. We hope that this will provide you with a more detailed insight into what your child will be learning about over the coming weeks.



And finally...some suggestions of ways that you can help your child at home:

<p>Personal, Social & Emotional Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to share toys and take turns when playing with siblings and friends. • When visiting somewhere, ask your child to explain what they can do there and what they can see growing there. • Provide opportunities for your child to take responsibility for small tasks around the house. 	<p>Literacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play games where you give an instruction such as 'Can you j-u-m-p?', 'Can you h-o-p?' – Can your child put the sounds together and show you the action? • Write shopping lists. • Play 'shops' so that your child can 'have a go' at reading the labels on the packets/boxes.
<p>Communication & Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play listening games like 'Simon says...' where your child has to copy an action or 'Ready, Steady, Go!' where they have to wait to do something, e.g. kick/throw the ball. • Talk to your child about what they did/places they visited yesterday. • Play 'I spy' with your child. 	<p>Mathematics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go on a shape walk and look for shapes which are the same, such as circles, squares. • Put numbers on skittles made from bottles. Can your child tell you which numbers get knocked down? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sing number songs such as '5 Little Ducks', '10 Fat Sausages'.
<p>Physical Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let your child practice using scissors to cut dough, cooked spaghetti or paper. • Play games like football, basketball or throw balls into boxes or bowls. • Encourage your child to dance when they hear their favourite songs and join in with them! 	<p>Understanding the World</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw a road/track/town on a big piece of paper to use with cars/trains/play people. • Explore pressing buttons, on a pelican crossing or the doorbell at a friend's house, to see what happens. • Visit different places such as the Library/seaside.
<p>Expressive Arts & Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use paints to mix a variety of colours. • Help your child to use some of their toys to make up a story. • Give your child string, scissors, sticky tape, glue and boxes to make a model like a car or a castle. 	