

SPRING TERM 2020

The British Preparatory School

PRE-SCHOOL — MISS BASSETT

The children who attended the class last term returned happily and have settled back into the daily routine. The new children who started are gradually settling. It is amazing how quickly they adapt to the routine and start to enjoy the company of other children and adults, not to mention the fun of discovering all the many activities and resources with which they are presented. Well done to you the parents for being part of this settling in period. Your attitude and support is so important. For these new children, our main aims of this term are to make the children feel comfortable and happy. Once they feel secure they will be encouraged to join in all the activities described below, depending on their level of maturity and readiness.



Having snacks with their friends

The main aim in Pre school is to develop the children's social and language skills. To that end we shall continue to have a set routine, to encourage the children to become independent, to play with their friends in a caring manner, to share the resources, to help to tidy in the classroom and to manage their snack boxes. All this will be accompanied by lots of language. They will also hear lots of stories and throughout the day sing rhymes and be involved in singing and action games.

For those children who have English as a second language, we shall continue to have short structured fun sessions of spoken English. These will involve increasing their receptive and vocalised vocabulary and, for those who are ready, the construction of short phrases, sentences and questions. It would be beneficial if you could encourage the children to sing the rhymes at home.



Reading Books in the Quiet Corner



Playing with the Tea Set

TOPIC AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

We started the term with a topic entitled, "All About Me" with particular focus on learning parts of the body, family members, daily routines, and hygiene. With the use of our dolls, lotto games and stories the children are learning to identify and vocalise facial features, limbs, fingers, and toes. They will also talk about actions and different types of emotion e.g. 'happy, sad, angry and excited'. Singing songs such as 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes', 'One Little Finger' and 'This is the Way we Jump Jump Jump', helps to reinforce the vocabulary and actions. It also helps them to follow instructions and develop their listening skills as well as being fun.



Learning about our bodies by taking care of the dolls

Our next topic will be based around two stories, 'The Monkey Puzzle' and 'The Gingerbread Man.' The stories themselves develop good listening skills, introduce more vocabulary and repetitive phrases that the children will learn, and lots of potential for creative work in the form of drama and art.

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

For those children who have just joined us, we are encouraging them to become more independent especially at snack time to be able to get their own bags from the cubby area and open their snack box. We encourage them to tidy up, wash hands and to walk round school in a line by "tickling the fence" It would be beneficial to have your support at home by encouraging them to perform similar tasks. When coming to and leaving school they should carry their own bags and walk whilst you are on the school premises. Please advise anyone who brings and picks up your child to do this rather than the adult carrying both child and bag!



Lining Up Nicely



Tickling the Fence

CREATIVE AND DEVELOPING FINE MOTOR SKILLS

To aid them with the development of fine motor skills we have lots of activities in class including cutting and sticking, playdough, painting, pencil control, fitting connectors and building towers with the lego and construction toys.

This term the colours we are focusing on are the primary colours.

As part of our topic we have started making paper plate faces, butterflies from hand prints and colouring houses whilst talking about our families and homes.



Tracing the Lines



Free Colouring

EARLY NUMERACY

This term we shall continue to focus on number rhymes so the children become familiar with the numbers. At this stage they will learn to say the names of the numbers although many are unable to count 1 for 1. We shall help them with this by counting 1 nose, 1,2, eyes 1 mouth, 1,2 ears and even 12345 fingers! When playing we ask them to find 1 red teddy, 2 green trains, 4 blue dinosaurs etc. You can help at home by doing the same when laying the table for example, find 1 spoon for Mummy 1 for Daddy etc. We also play games with cards displaying numbers 1-5 and later 1-10 with those children who are ready. They will also learn to recognise and name some simple shapes such as circle, square and triangle, and do some pattern and sequencing exercises.



Learning about numbers through play

TOILET TRAINING

If you feel your child is ready to start toilet training do not hesitate to get in touch so that we can work together. (children joining nursery in September **MUST** be toilet trained)

PICK UP TIME

Please remember that pick up time is at 12.15. After this time staff have preparation to do for the next day, displays, washing of toys etc. Apart from this it is upsetting for the child when they see all the other children leaving with their parents.

It is important that we work together so please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns

Miss Bassett
Class Leader

RHYMES TO PRACTISE AT HOME

HAND ON SHOULDERS (RECITATION)

Children should act out actions in the rhyme

Hands on shoulders, hands on knees.
Hands behind you, if you please.
Touch your hips, now your nose.
Hands up high and now your toes
Hands up high, in the air,
Then pull them down and touch your hair.
Clap your hands, one, two, three.
Then hands at your sides, like a giant tree.

TEN LITTLE FINGERS (RECITATION)

I have ten little fingers
They all belong to me.
I can make them do things
Do you want to see?
I can shut them tight
I can open them wide.
I can put them together.
I can make them hide.
I can put them up high.
I can put them down low.
I can fold them together.
and hold them just so.

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES & TOES

Head Shoulders,
Knees and Toes, Knees and Toes.
Head Shoulders,
Knees and Toes, Knees and toes,
and Eyes and Ears And Mouth and Nose.
Head Shoulders,
Knees and Toes, Knees and Toes.

OPEN SHUT THEM

Open, shut them, open, shut them,
Give your hands a clap.
Open, shut them, open, shut them,
Lay them in your lap.
Roll them, roll them, roll them, roll them.
Roll them just like this.
Shake them, shake them, shake them, shake them
Blow a little kiss.

PUT YOUR FINGERS ON YOUR KNEE

TUNE 'If You're Happy And You Know It'

Put your finger on your knee on your knee.
Put your finger on your knee on your knee.
Then turn yourself around,
Stamp your feet upon the ground,
And put your little finger on your knee.

*Continue singing and pointing to additional
body parts*