

MOBBERLEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/ Guardians,

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to you all as we begin our Spring Term at Mobberley School. I hope you and your family had a wonderful Christmas break and I would like to thank you all for your kind and generous Christmas gifts.

This letter will explain our topic for the first part of this term. The children in Reception will be following the Foundation Stage Curriculum and our activities will follow the seven areas of learning.

**Prime areas**

* Personal, Social & Emotional Development (PSE)
* Physical Development (PD)
* Communication & Language (CL)

**Specific areas**

* Literacy (L)
* Mathematics (M)
* Understanding the World (UW)
* Expressive Arts & Design (EAD)

The topic for the first half of the Spring Term is ‘How Does that Building Stay Up?’ This was chosen by the children and will be studied where relevant through the areas of the curriculum as follows:

PSE/P4C - During our PSE sessions this term we will be busy focussing on ‘Being Healthy and Staying Safe’, whilst in P4C we will be thinking and talking about ‘Growing and Changing.’

L/ CL- A range of topic related story books and tapes about building and construction will be shared for developing reading and writing of simple stories. Our ‘Talk for Writing’ story this half term is ‘The Three Little Pigs’, the children will begin by learning to orally retell the story using actions. They will then draw story maps and write the beginning, middle and end of the story. Lastly they will rewrite the story changing the main characters and setting but still using the familiar story language they have learnt.

We will be reading and exploring elements of simple non-fiction texts. The children will be writing for a variety of purposes such as instructions, lists, letters, labels and stories. Together we will explore and describe the features of different buildings, structures and homes, encouraging the children to use a variety of adjectives in their descriptive sentences. The children will use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences in our ‘Construction Area’ role play area. This area will have a Site Office area where the children can pretend to answer the phone and take orders on a laptop. It will have various child friendly building tools and materials for the children to sell and buy. The children are very excited about our new role play area and decided themselves what they would like inside!

The writing area and story area will be equipped with a wide range of fun resources and materials for the children to explore and use whenever they wish.

M- The children have thoroughly enjoyed our practical approach to mathematics. The children will be adding and taking away practically using appropriate mathematical language. We will also be counting in ones from zero up to ninety-nine and the children will be learning to count in 2’s to 20. Problem solving will be a key skill taught this term and will be taught within the different mathematical concepts. In addition we will continue to practise writing the numerals 2,3,5 and we will be writing the new numerals 6, 7 and 8. This term we will be continuing to order by length and height and we will also be learning the names of and describing 3D shapes. The children will be talking about, recognising and continuing a pattern with repeated colours, shapes or sizes.

UW- Sense of place and time is a key focus this term; the children will be investigating, talking about and describing a wide selection of buildings, structures and bridges. They will be making comparisons between old and new structures, as well as buildings constructed from a variety of materials. As a class we will discuss architects, planners and builders and we will identify the different machinery, techniques and skills required for building. We will be discussing ‘famous buildings/landmarks’, sharing ideas and questions and we will explore the designing and making of structures for a particular purpose. In addition to this we will explore different natural and man-made building materials. The children will be using a simple programme on the computer to design a building or structure and add a label. In Reception Class the children can choose to use the two computers and our Alpha touch screen (Interactive Wipe Board) for a variety of activities throughout the day.

RE –During our weekly RE sessions in the first half term we will be thinking about and exploring the Christian Creation Story. Our learning will incorporate creative activities culminating in a whole class display. We will also be looking forward to learning about Chinese New Year during the week of 27th – 31st January, when we will learn about and write the Chinese New Year story, listen to and dance to Chinese music as well as making lanterns and dragons. In the second half term we will learn about new life as we approach Easter time.

PD - On Mondays we will begin Outdoor Games sessions with our sports coach James and this term we will focus on team building and positional skills using small balls and a range of equipment. Please could you ensure that your child has their PE kit in school at all times. Yoga will be taught every Tuesday afternoon with our specialist Yoga teacher, Miss Quibell. The outdoor area will be available for the children to use every day. This will provide a range of equipment, bicycles, scooters, large construction materials and space to promote the children’s physical development.

EAD - We will be exploring mixed-media and materials; planning, designing and making structures, buildings and bridges using a wide range of resources including paper, card and recycled materials. We will work as a class to create models which can be later displayed. We also will explore rubbings, patterns, wax resist and poly-printing techniques to print our own building and structure designs. In music we will investigate pitch, dynamic and rhythms linked to what we might hear on a construction site and this will incorporate the loud and quiet sounds different tools make. Our music and singing sessions will be taught on a Tuesday afternoon by our specialist music teacher, Mrs Eadie. The creative area has a selection of messy materials and resources giving the children the opportunity to create constructions, collages, paintings and drawings. In the second half of the term we will study the famous French post-impressionist artist Henri Rousseau.

**Enrichment activities will include:**

* Friday 10th January, 8.45-9am - Library Friday
* Friday 7th February, 8.45-9am - Library Friday
* Friday 14th February – Break up for Half Term Holiday
* Monday 24th February – School Begins
* Monday 24th February – Friday 6th March Fair Trade Fortnight
* Friday 6th March, 8.45-9am – Library Friday
* Friday 6th March – World Book Day
* Friday 20th March- Stay and Play Session 9am-9.45am focus on Finger Gym activities (Fine Motor Skills)
* Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st March – Parents Evening.
* Thursday 2nd April – Break up for Easter Holiday.

**Homework** consists of individual reading books which will be changed daily/once read; please try to hear your child read **every evening**. Each child now has key word sheets, these words are to be read using word recognition (look at the whole word and say) as the majority are tricky words and cannot be sounded out. Please encourage your child to read these every night so that they become more familiar with each new word. Each week your child will be learning new sounds and learning how to form their letters in Mobberley handwriting (joined up style). Every Wednesday the new set of sounds and handwriting will be sent home in the Homework book. Please support your child by revising these given sounds and words daily. If no new sounds are sent home please spend time revising **all** previously learned sounds. Mobberley cursive handwriting style is rather tricky so please try to practise letter formation as often as you can. Can the Homework book please be returned to school the following **Monday.** Thank you for continuing to support your child at home and whilst out and about spotting numbers and playing number games.

Parents’ evenings will be held on Monday 30th March and Tuesday 31st March when you will have the opportunity to meet with me and discuss your child’s individual progress.

I hope this gives you some guidance on the topic and activities your child will be engaging in this term. If you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to see me at the end of the day or speak to one of our teaching assistants Mrs Norbury, Miss Ashworth or Miss Quibell.

Thank you for your support,

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Franklin

Reception Class Teacher