



# Swans Newsletter

Class Teacher: Ms Andrews

Teaching Assistants: Miss Jones and Mrs Parton-Harris

**Our Early Year's Vision is for all children to be happy, confident, independent, inquisitive and resilient learners.**

This week we have started our topic about 'space' We began the week finding out what the children already knew about space and what they wanted to learn. It was an interesting discussion... Our class blog contains some of the discussion we shared.

Miss Jones has set a space themed role play area which the children have used really well. This will be staying for the duration of our theme.

Our focus this week has been about the sun as it is the centre of our galaxy. Ask your children all about it. It will be interesting to see what they remember.

The next few months sees us celebrating quite a few children's 5<sup>th</sup> birthdays. We have a pretend cake in the classroom that we use to sing happy birthday to your child with and they get to choose a birthday badge to wear for the day. It's very kind of parents to send in sweets to share with their friends and this is not expected. However, can I ask parents to be mindful of the sweets they send in if they chose to! We have several students that are vegetarian and don't eat Haribos due to the animal gelatine contained in them. They sometimes find it hard to understand why they are missing out. We also have a couple of children with nut allergies. Therefore I kindly ask that if you wish to send in something to celebrate your child's birthday, which we welcome, that it be something suitable ie, if it's a cake that all ingredients are listed (shop bought makes this easier) or if you are sending sweets that they don't contain gelatine. Something like milky ways, malteazers or chocolate buttons would be a good idea. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

If you have any good condition but unwanted dolls, prams, dolls clothes, duplo sets, or any other construction/ imaginative toys suitable for our small world area we would greatly appreciate them.

Thank you!

## **Please Remember...**

### **Communication books**

These seem to be working well. Thank you for your cooperation. We will be having another stay play and chat session where you can book a time to talk to me about how your children are doing at school. Please fill in the reading record book too so we can see who is reading at home. Thank you.

Phonics books – We are learning the next phase of letter sounds so please make sure the phonics book comes to school every day. Thank you.

**Items of clothing including coats, gloves, hats, scarves and shoes should be named!**

The Swans class blog will be updated every week so don't forget to take a look to find out what your children have been up to during the week.

**...Don't Forget**

**This week in the Foundation Stage we would like your child to be an**  
**STICKOSAURUS**

**Being involved and concentrating**

- I can keep focused on my activity for a period of time.
- I am able to show high levels of energy and fascination.
- I am able to pay attention to detail.
- I am not easily distracted.

**Send me a Selfie Homework**

Send me a selfie! You can print the selfie yourself and hand it in or you can email me the photo straight from your phone!

**My email address is** [chatter@bellsfrm.bham.sch.uk](mailto:chatter@bellsfrm.bham.sch.uk)

**The homework is to be in by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.**

**This week the Selfie homework is 'words in the environment...'**

Where do you see words? What words can you see? Have a look around your local area to see what words you can see. It might be a shop name, a road sign or a packet in the cupboard. Be creative and have fun!

**Dates for your calendar**

Stay play and chat session's week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> February (time and dates to be confirmed)

Phase 3 phonics workshop week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> February (time and date to be confirmed)

watch this space!

**How you can help your child at home**

- Please continue to work with your children at home on their reading, phonics and forming their letters correctly, making sure your child has the correct tripod pencil grip. We have sent home a set of tricky words too. It is clear to see who practises regularly and it does have a huge impact on their development in the classroom.
- Please help your child to practise recognising and writing their names, with correct letter formation and pencil grip.
- Please continue to help your child to recognise and count 1:1 their numbers, shapes and use language such as heavier, lighter, taller, smaller, bigger, in front of, behind, forwards, backwards etc.
- Please play games with your children like snap, dominoes, ludo etc as this helps them build up good cooperation skills and some number skills.

**Next week in the Foundation Stage we will be continuing with our learning about**

**Space**



**Enjoying our Learning ...**

**... Aiming for Excellence**