Dear Parents,

We hope you and your child have a fantastic Easter holiday filled with lots of fun and laughter! The children are now ready for a rest after a very busy half term which has been filled with amazing learning and memories for the children. It’s been lovely to see how the children are leading the learning forward which results in an ever evolving environment. Learning continues for the children outside of nursery so we have provided the children with a holiday diary sheet. We want the activity to capture key memories, and your child’s diary sheet will be put into their new Summer term learning journeys that will eagerly await them on their return to Nursery to capture their new significant memories.

Reading
We have changed all children’s reading books for the holidays and have provided them with a new book. We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the fantastic entries into the children’s diaries and we are thrilled with how many of the children are developing a love of reading. We would actively encourage children to read a range of other books over the holidays.

As always we like to keep you updated on what is happening in Nursery and how you can support children at home. Therefore we have an update of what has been happening and will be happening on children’s return to Nursery.

**Maths**
We have been focusing on recognising numbers and understanding the value each number has. You could support your child in counting out their favourite toys at home and looking for numbers when your out and about. We have also been looking at number problems, involving adding and subtracting. You could use everyday objects for this activity therefore children are engaged in new opportunities which will support their important early number skills.

**Talking with Mr. Tumble**
Children have loved Mr Tumble’s Spotty bag and learning Nursery Rhymes where we can sign. Next half term we will be developing a sensory garden with objects Mr Tumble will be sending our way… you can ask your child about this each week. It’s very exciting!

**Letters and Sounds**
Children have loved learning their letter sounds with the help of the cbeebies Alphablocks. The sounds we have now covered are... m a s d t p i n o g c

Children have been looking at hearing initial sounds in words with these letters, e.g. p for pea. They have also looked at hearing rhymes such as win, tin, fin, bin. We have also been blending CVC words, e.g. dog. Adults say the sounds d– o – g and the children say the word.

**PE**
Some parents have been asking about PE sessions. Children have thoroughly enjoyed these activities which involve children moving in different ways, playing team games, developing their coordination and thinking skills as well as having fun.

They will continue on a **Wednesday** and **Friday**. All children can come dressed in both sessions their usual jumper/cardigan and school tshirt with trainers and tracksuit bottoms or leggings.
Parental Consultations
It has been lovely to meet with everyone and discuss how well the children are progressing. Staff were delighted with the positive comments we have received and would like to express our thanks for these. We hope to have further opportunities to work with you in the Summer term.

Blossoming Garden
We are continuing to develop our garden area and the new vegetable patch is underway. We have developed the pond and are hoping to have frog spawn in during the Summer to support children’s understanding of the world.

Summer
As the provision has developed so has the children's interests which staff are using to drive learning forward. Many new interests have been observed and following the restructure of furniture we will be resourcing areas to support children's skills and development. Therefore learning will be planned around...

Space
We are creating a brand new Space room in the role play area following the children's interest in this area after we observed the eclipse. Children have asked for a rocket and astronaut suits so we are all ready to take off onto a new learning journey!

Pirate Cove
Following children’s interest in Captain Hook and Peter Pan our sand and water area is being transformed into a new Pirate Cove. Maths and writing skills are being promoted within this area. All aboard or will they be walking the plank?

Writing
Many parents have asked for tips on how to support the children's letter formation skills which they are extremely interested in. We have attached the rhymes we use for letter sounds and would promote children writing these at the beach in sand or using water and paint brushes. All big movements are great!

Other Links
The children remain interested in castles, dinosaurs and princesses which we will promote in new areas to further develop children’s skills. Nursery will have a new layout and feel.

If you can help out in anyway, e.g. have any skills from your job you could come and show the children please see staff. We would love to invite you in to support learning.

Nursery Fund
Thank you for your continuing contributions which have allowed staff to buy new resources for Nursery which have supported children being able to request to make their own play dough recipe during exploring time, ingredients for baking, allowing us to have additional snacks such as breadsticks, seeds to plant and to cover any newly bought items to support provision.

We would like to thank all of the children and their families for a fantastic term, it has been wonderful to work with you all. We would like to express our sincere thanks for all of your support as it really does make the difference to the children. We look forward to seeing you on Monday 20th April 2015.

Thank you
Mrs Bell, Mrs Groser, Mrs Goodall, Mrs Lowes, Mrs Hill and Mrs Nicholson