



# School Newsletter

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Happy Friday everyone!

What a busy week it has been in school. Our theme this half term is **"Once Upon a time"**. Children will be reading and learning about **traditional stories**, such as the Gingerbread Man, Rumpelstiltskin and The Three Billy Goats Gruff.

You can support your child's learning at home by reading traditional stories to your child and talking about the characters and things that happen in the story. Ask your child to tell you what happened in the story. Once they know a story well, **encourage them to tell you the story** using the pictures in the book to help them remember what happened.

## Story Spoons

The children are so proud showing their fabulous story spoons to their friends. There is still time to bring these into school if you haven't done so already. We look forward to seeing them and using them to retell our favourite stories.

## Parent Maths Workshop/Coffee Morning

Miss Wilson is hosting a Mathematics coffee morning next **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 9am**. Come along for coffee, tea and a biscuit and find out how to support your child's mathematical **development** at home with lots of practical ideas.

## NELI Preschool

Our NELI story next week is **Cinderella**. You will find the home learning resources on our school website. If you scroll down the home page, click on the tile at the bottom called "NELI" and you will find the home learning information for Cinderella.

## Winter coats

Please continue to ensure your child has **a nice warm coat with a hood for school**. Gloves are **not suitable** for school as they become damp and wet outside as children play and learn. This makes for a very miserable experience. In cold and damp weather, children will only go outdoors for limited amounts of time with lots of opportunities to warm up.

## Learning Journals

You should now have all received an email with instructions for how to access your child's online Learning Journal. If you haven't, please email me at [ht@eastprescotroadnursery.co.uk](mailto:ht@eastprescotroadnursery.co.uk) with your name and your child's name and I will send you out a reset email.

## Attendance and Timekeeping

This is the time of year when children pick up bugs. If your child is too poorly sick to come to school, the best place for them is at home resting. This allows them to make a swift recovery and prevents the spread of illness to other children.

Please ring the school office and let Joanne Jones know that they won't be in **on the first day of absence**. As a maintained nursery school, we follow the safeguarding procedures and policies of Liverpool City Council. **Any unexplained absences may be followed up as a safeguarding concern**.

## Names on all belongings / lost property basket

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name. Please check the **lost property basket** in the library area for any un-named missing items.



### **Snack Fund**

Please hand your **£12 cash payment** for this half term to your child's class teacher by **Friday 24th January**. Many thanks in advance.

### **Invoices**

We greatly appreciate prompt payment of your invoices for extended provision and lunch club. Many thanks.

### **Chinese New Year dragon show**

To mark the start of our 2025 Chinese New Year celebrations, the dragon dancers will be visiting school. Parents are warmly invited at **10.30am or 12.15pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January** to come and see the amazing show, which has become an annual traditional at EPR. The show lasts about 30 minutes. Access for parents will be via the carpark gate.

As you can appreciate, this is a costly show to put on each year. We are asking parents for **a small voluntary contribution of £2.00** towards the cost of putting on this show, which we will be taking on the day.

### **Effect of i-pads, tablets and mobile phones on children's language**

Studies are increasingly evidencing the **negative impact** of extended use of digital devices on children's development, especially in terms of attention span, language and communication. As a maximum, **30 minutes of use** is the limit for children at the age of 3 and 4. **This is the total time for a whole day.**

**Children do not learn new words or language from screens.** Language is about communicating socially and requires two-way conversations with another human being. The best way to promote language is through natural conversations with an adult, turn taking, or sharing a book together and talking about what is happening in the story. Encourage eye contact, paying attention and being fully present in the moment. **Nursery rhymes with actions** are also the absolute foundation for young children's language development (but only when they are sung by an adult, not when they are viewed on a screen).

### **Stoneycroft Children's Centre**

Our extended provision manager, Carolina (Cal) Thompson, has been developing a partnership with our local children's centre, which provides a range of services for children and families. With the ever increasing challenges of modern life, the children's centre **offers support for parents and families**. Examples of courses they offer are relationships, toilet training, nutrition, sleep and financial planning.

Cal has provided a **Membership Form** and an information flyer containing details of classes available for this term through the children's centre. Please return completed membership forms to your child's class teacher in school **by this Friday (24<sup>th</sup> January)** and we will pass these on to Stoneycroft Children's Centre. You can also follow them on Instagram by searching for Stoneycroft and Knotty Ash Children's Centre.

If you require further information, please ask to speak to Cal in school or send a quick email to [calt@eastprescotroadnursery.co.uk](mailto:calt@eastprescotroadnursery.co.uk) and Cal will be happy to help.

Have a lovely weekend. See you all on Monday.

*Roots to grow Wings to fly*

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