

# St Paulinus

## Nursery Spring 1 Term Newsletter

January 2022

Dear parents,

Can I start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year! It has been lovely to hear lots of exciting things from the children about their time off and Santa visiting! It wasn't the start to the new year I was expecting but I am back now.

### Learning opportunities

This half term our themes are winter and snow and animals that live in the snow. We will be looking at cold colours and creating different pieces of art using these. The children have already really enjoyed finding out about some snowy animals like polar bears and snowy owls. The stories we will be using this half term are: One Snowy Night and Jack Frost. There are lots of wonderful science opportunities with this topic and I am in the process of setting up an investigation station in the classroom where the children can explore ice. The children will also be exploring signs of winter in the outside area with little art and science projects.

### Numbers all around us

This half term we will be looking at the numbers 1-5. We will be developing our subitising skills. This is where a child can instantly recognise a number of objects to five without the need for counting them. Finger games are great at developing this very important early skill in maths and playing games with a dice. Eventually, with lots of practice, the children will not need to count the dots.

### Cosy Reading Den

Just a little thank you for all your £1 fund donations. Your children experienced lots of baking and cooking last term. Really exciting, we have been able to order a new reading den house for the classroom. I am sure the children will really enjoy going inside the new cosy den to relax and enjoy a book.

Should you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us. Thank you for your support.

Miss Mallam and Mrs Ellis.

### Blast

I mentioned in the previous newsletter about starting the Blast program. Due to the crazy times in nursery before Christmas we didn't really get going with the first groups so we are restarting again next week. If your child has been selected for the morning or afternoon Blast session, we will let you know.

### R.E

Our current focus is Celebrations where we learn about community and how celebrations are community occasions. The next topic is all about gathering together and how we are welcomed into the church.

### The message centre!

This half term we will be developing a message centre with the children in the classroom. We will be looking at mark making and early writing through secret codes! This will be for those children who we think are ready to develop their writing. I am also going to start looking at introducing a couple of letters this half term; S, A, T. We will look at the sound and the formation. There is a mnemonic for each letter and I will send these out on Monday in their bags. Getting children to start listening to the first letter sounds in words is really important for reading and writing. Playing 'I Spy' or making little alliterative rhymes up, where the child has to recognise which letter sound they hear lots is a great way of developing this. E.g. Silly, sausages, sizzle.

### General

Just a reminder about names in all of their belongings. I realise that gloves can be tricky. As we are outside everyday, bringing an additional pair of socks might help with our their cold feet. These can live in their bags.