



**Freedom to explore  
Opportunities to express**



## **JANUARY NEWSLETTER**

As this is our first newsletter of the year, we would like to offer a very warm welcome to our new children and parents who started with us this term. It's been lovely to see our returning children settling back into nursery and helping the new children by showing them what to do at group time e.g. good sitting and good listening. This just goes to show how much they have learnt since they joined us!

We know that settling into nursery can be a challenge for children and parents and want to reassure you that we will do our utmost to work with you to support each child to settle. Staff are always on hand to speak to if there is anything you wish to discuss or bring to our attention that may help during this settling in period.



We continue to focus on the development of children's healthy eating habits and their understanding of healthy food.

**In Nursery School we support this through the availability of a healthy snack, which usually consists of a range of fruit and vegetables.** Occasionally our snack may include something different, particularly if we are using this as a learning experience – for instance we made rice and vegetables this week.

**We rely on your donations of £2 per week to fund our snack and any money left over contributes to playdough and other consumable resources in the classroom.**

We always talk to the children about how they can be healthy by eating well and for those children that stay all day, we extend those discussions to lunchtime.

**Please consider the balance of healthy food and 'treats' you include in your child's lunch box in order to support us in promoting healthy eating. DO NOT include sweets or chocolate bars.**

### **Clothing**

Please ensure your child is appropriately dressed for learning outside.

This should include a suitable warm coat, with a hood, which enables them to move comfortably, remembering that they are likely to get muddy or wet when working outside. A hat and gloves too will be enough to ensure they are warm when working. Please remember to name ALL items of clothing. We have a number of unnamed items in school that can't find their rightful owner!

### **What we have been learning:**

We have been focussing on different types of writing in nursery school and bringing the children's attention to the letter of the week in the writing area. This changes regularly and we ask that you support us in drawing your child's attention to the writing types and the information it is telling us, along with the letter of the week and its formation.

## 恭喜发财

### 'Kung Hei Fat Choi'

This is a traditional Chinese New Year greeting.

This week sees the start of Chinese New Year and we've been learning about the festival and celebrations linked to this special time including special food eaten, family time and the giving of gifts! We've changed our role play area into a Chinese restaurant using real resources and watched a lion dance on our interactive board. In the Chinese calendar it is the Year of the Rabbit.

### **What we will be learning next:**

It's the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch this weekend! The children have already been learning the names of different types of birds and we're going to look carefully over the next few days to see which ones visit our garden. We'll record this too in our outdoor big book. We hope you can join in at home. For more information visit [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk).

Our Under 3's are learning our school routines; enjoying their group time and settling well to share a story time. They've been enjoying the stories 'Owl Babies' and 'The Three Little Pigs'. They will be focusing on maths experiences too, such as counting, sorting and shape recognition as well as enjoying exploring the outdoor area.

### **Diary Dates:**

- We break up on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February
- We return on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February
- Spring Term ends on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Our calendar is available on our school website [rainhillnursery.st-helens.sch.uk](http://rainhillnursery.st-helens.sch.uk)

Contact: [rainhillnursery@sthelens.org.uk](mailto:rainhillnursery@sthelens.org.uk) 01744 677635