



## Buds Class

### Spring Term 1 2018

Our topic for this term is **Dinosaurs**. The children had an unexpected surprise this week when they discovered that a dinosaur called Deano had been in the classroom and made a big mess. The children will be learning about different dinosaurs through information books and stories. They will be exploring fossils, making dinosaur masks and using a new computer programme to find out new facts.

#### Maths

Over the term we will be focusing on counting and recognising numbers to 20. The children will be encouraged to order numbers and find one more or one less than a given number. We will also be looking at patterns and exploring the characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and uses mathematical language to describe them.

#### English

Over the first few weeks we will be talking about dinosaur eggs, writing labels and reading stories about 'Harry and his bucketful of dinosaurs'. We will also be using a wide range of dinosaur books to draw and label dinosaurs and their habitats. Our library day will continue to be every Monday. Please make sure that your child has their book in their book bag.

We will begin to send reading books home with your child. Please look at the book together, talk about the pictures and enjoy sharing it. Your child will have a Reading Record book. Please write the title, the date and a short comment when you have shared the book together. We recommend looking at the book several times together and as your child becomes more familiar with the story they will become more confident. We will also start to send home some High Frequency Words (HFW's) and some Red words to learn. Red words, also known as 'tricky words', are words that cannot be blended together, for example 'we' and 'he'. Your child may tell you that 'you-can't-Fred-a-red' and this means that red words have to be practised regularly until recognised by sight. Please see us if you would like to talk about reading or learning words.

#### Physical Development

At the start of every day we will be practising fine motor skills by tracing over letters and patterns, manipulating play-dough, threading laces through cards and objects and completing jigsaw puzzles. We will regularly be making use of the bikes and trikes outside, as well as the trim trail and our lovely outdoor space. The children will be practising jumping, hopping, stretching and copying movements as well as throwing and catching.

#### Expressive arts and crafts

The children will have opportunities to use materials and paint for arts and crafts related to our dinosaur topic. As you already know, your child will come home messy! We are hoping to make dinosaur masks, dinosaur models and fossil footprints. We will also be learning and singing dinosaur songs and rhymes and using instruments to explore sounds.

#### Achievement Tree

A reminder that we have class 'Achievement Tree'. It has been lovely to add some children's achievements to the tree over the last term. We would welcome contributions of achievement leaves from home. When your child achieves something new please write the achievement on the leaf, remembering to put your child's name and the date. Then send the leaf into school so that it can be hung on the tree. We do celebrate with the children as a class when each new leaf appears.

**Parent contribution**

Please continue to help your child to practise putting on their coat and getting changed for school. As it is very cold at the moment please ensure that your child has a hat and a pair of gloves in school every day.

Mrs Stevens and Mrs Saheed