



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to the second term of this academic year! Below is an overview for this forthcoming term.

Our theme in Term two is **"Fairy Tales & Festivals"**. As part of our theme, we will be immersing ourselves in **'Traditional Tales'** and **'Celebrations'** which will include the festivals of Diwali, Hannukah and Christmas, as well as learning about the importance of Remembrance Day. Within these topics we will be working towards the Early Learning Goals for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

### **Communication, Language and Literacy**

The children will continue to learn approximately 4 new sounds a week. They will learn how to blend these sounds together to read and how to segment words into individual sounds to help them to write words. They will continue to learn how to form letters, following the Lowbrook cursive handwriting policy.

Through topic work the children will be given lots of opportunities to read and write for different purposes, for example: reading different traditional tales and writing letters to Father Christmas.

### **Mathematics**

The children will be improving their ability to count forwards and backwards using number rhymes and games. They will be comparing and using the vocabulary of height. We will be revisiting shape with a focus on sorting and properties. They will also be learning how to recognise coins and the different ways we can sort them. We will begin to look at units of time with lots of practical application.

### **Understanding the World**

In the topic of 'Traditional Tales' the children will be reading various tales such as the Gingerbread Man, Little Red Riding Hood and The Three Little Pigs. They will also be using the iPads to create Tellegami's to re-tell some of these tales.

Through the topic of 'Celebrations' children will begin to know about their own cultures and beliefs and those of other people. They will be learning about the celebrations of Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

In the topic 'Traditional Tales' the children will be designing their own Gingerbread Men and experimenting with different materials to make houses for the Three Little Pigs. In our 'Celebrations' topic the children will have the opportunity to create Christmas craft, sing winter songs and make Diva lamps.

### **Physical Development**

Each term we will have a fundamental movement skill focus. This term we will be developing dynamic balance to agility and static balance, as well as experimenting with dance and movement. There will also be many daily activities available for children to improve both their fine and gross motor skills.

## **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

The children will be learning the skills of good listening, speaking, thinking and concentrating, which will help them achieve in their work. They will be following the themes of 'Getting On and Falling Out'. This theme focuses on developing children's knowledge, understanding and skills in three key social and emotional aspects of learning: empathy, managing feelings (with a focus on anger) and social skills.

### **Useful Apps**

Counting Caterpillar

Spelling Bug

Forest Phonics

Tellegami

Phonics with Letter Lilies

ABC PocketPhonics

Funimal Phonics

Hairy Letters

### **Finally**

At Lowbrook we have an "Open Door" policy; should you have any queries please feel free to speak with myself, Mrs West or Mrs Richardson at the end of the day. Alternatively please make an appointment with me or via Mrs Bailey in the school office.

Yours faithfully,

*Miss Iasi*