



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 3 of this academic year. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Below is an overview of for the forthcoming term. Our topic for Term 3 is 'Space' where we will be working towards the Early Learning Goals for the Foundation Stage.

### **Literacy**

In phonics the children will continue to learn approximately 4 sounds a week. They will learn how to blend these sounds together and how to segment words to help them to write. They will continue to learn how to form letters using the Lowbrook handwriting. The children will be reading individually and in small groups. They will be learning about story book language and poetry, as well as non-fiction. The children will have opportunities to use the netbooks and iPads to play phonic and word games.

### **Communication and Language**

The children will use their interviewing skills to ask questions to the astronauts and aliens. There will be opportunities for the children to make up their own stories using puppets and props. The children will also practise their oracy skills performing space poems and songs.

### **Mathematics**

The children will be improving their ability to count forwards and backwards using number rhymes and games. Throughout the term the following key concepts will be taught: Counting and estimating objects to 10, and then to 20, counting on from a given number, saying the 'next' number to any given number, comparing lengths, using the language of position; Understanding addition as a combination of two sets, and relating this to counting on and the partitioning of a set.

### **Understanding the World**

In the topic of 'Space' they will investigate objects and materials. They will be making space rockets that 'blast off' and have the opportunity to ask lots of questions about why things happen and how things work. We will look at and compare the different planets in our solar system.

### **Expressive arts and design**

The children will have opportunities to role play stories as the role play area will be set up as a space rocket. They will have the opportunity to explore colour, texture, shape, form and space in many art activities such as making 3D rockets and space art.

### **Physical Development**

This term we will be developing balance and agility. The children will have opportunities to experiment with different ways of travelling both with and without apparatus. We will also explore how we can balance using different parts of our body. 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 'Going for Goals'.

**Homework**

This term the reading, phonics and maths homework will continue. Your child is also welcome to bring in any space related books, DVDs, games etc. that they would like to share with the class.

**Finally**

If you have any queries do not hesitate to discuss these with us.

Yours faithfully

*Miss Iasi, Mrs West and Mrs Richardson*