

Diocese of Brentwood
St Bede's Catholic Primary School and Nursery
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Head teacher

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Thursday 8th February 2018

Dear Family,



RE: We have concluded our topic 'Celebrations' this week. We celebrated the feast of St Valentine during Prayer time today. After half-term we will introduce a new topic-'Growing'.



Chinese New Year: This week we began our Chinese New Year topic. It is the Year of the Dog. We have read the Chinese New Year story and we have been learning about the 12 Chinese New Year animals:

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| 1. Rat | 7. Horse |
| 2. Ox | 8. Ram |
| 3. Tiger | 9. Monkey |
| 4. Rabbit | 10. Rooster |
| 5. Dragon | 11. Dog |
| 6. Snake | 12. Pig |

The children have enjoyed looking at our Chinese resources: chop sticks, examples of Chinese writing, calendars, lanterns and clothing. The restaurant has been very popular with the children. They have thoroughly enjoyed playing the different roles of customers, chefs, waiters and waitresses! We all enjoyed helping to make vegetable stir-fry noodles this week. We hope they enjoyed tasting it at home! All great fun!!!!The art area has been very busy as the children have made Chinese dragon puppets.



Literacy: We have been naming and talking about traditional Chinese foods and dishes, looking at Chinese recipe books and menus. We have been listening for initial sounds in objects and matching them to the correct letter card. We also clapped out the syllables in the names of the Chinese animals which the years are named after. Please practise clapping the syllables in their name and maybe other family members. They have been practising writing their names this week in their Valentine's Day cards.

Maths: The children have had lots of fun matching Chinese picture pair cards, measuring the length of dragons, making repeat pattern dragons with beads, putting snakes in order of size and doing jigsaw puzzles. This week we have also been using number fans to practise recognising numbers and looking for 1 more and 1 less. Please practise saying numbers 1 more or 1 less than a number given.



Physical: In the water tray the children have been playing with dried rice. They have been practising using chopsticks to pick up play dough noodles and 'felt' noodles in our restaurant ...they are getting very good! Many of them have been trying to write children's orders and update menus!! This experience helps to develop their writing skills.



Space and Aliens: Next term we will be beginning a new topic on space and aliens. We will be sending Barnaby Bear into space and watching his adventures each day!



Internet Safety Day: This week we celebrated Internet Safety Day by watching a clip on Espresso and talking being careful when using computers, phones and tablets. We reminded them that they should only play on these when Mummy or Daddy is with them.



Lanterns of the week: This week's 'Lantern of the Week' in our morning session are Ifeomachi and Chetanna. 'Lantern of the Week' in our afternoon session are Thamarai and Yusuf. Well done to all of them for trying hard in their activities, being a kind friend and for helping in the nursery this week



Birthdays: This week we celebrated Tivain's birthday. Congratulations to him now he is 4. During the half-term Aiden, Ruheen, Alisabel and Yusuf will all be celebrating their 4th birthday. We wish them a lovely day.



Library Books: Please remember to return your child's school library book in their book bag on Thursday. Thank you.



Show and Tell: Some children like to bring toys from home to show us. As we don't want them to get forgotten, lost or broken we have now introduced a 'Show and Tell' time. If your child would like to bring in a toy on a Thursday to show to the children and talk about it, please can you ensure their name is on it and we shall have a box for them to put it in. This activity can improve your child's confidence and speaking skills. Please can you discourage your child from bringing in toys on the other days. Thank you.

Reminders:

Please remember the morning Nursery session is from 9am -12.00am and the afternoon session is from 12.30pm -3.30pm. For safety reasons please be prompt. Thank you.

Thank you to those parents who have sent in their £5.00 contribution towards our weekly cooking activities. Thank you.



Clothes: Please can you put your child's name in their coats, hats, scarves, wellies and gloves. If your child wears wellies or boots to school can you bring in their trainers to wear inside. **Please return any nursery clothes, washed and dried, as soon as possible.**

Some dates for your diary:

Friday 9th February- School is shut for Half-term.

Monday 19th February- School re-opens.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Coughlan, Mrs Ladd, Mrs Sleigh, Mrs Spinks.