



## FOUNDATION STAGE ONE NEWSLETTER

OWLS

SPRING 1 Term 2019



We hope that you had a lovely holiday and enjoyed the break. We would also like to welcome our new starters to Brinsley and hope that they enjoy their time in foundation.

### IMPORTANT NEWS:

- **Phonics Meeting** Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 3.30pm in the hall. Please return your slip if you are attending.
- **Older children only:** (those who will be 4 years old before 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019) If you haven't already done it, please make sure that you apply for a Reception place for your child. This MUST be done by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2019. For more information please visit: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions/first-admission-and-transfer-at-junior>
- **Handwriting:** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January - Older children will start handwriting each day at the beginning of a session. Please see below for information about this.

This half term our topic is titled 'Can I have a dog?' We will be learning about different pets and how to look after them. Our role play area is set up as a Vets surgery and we will be learning about the job of being a vet and how to care for poorly animals. There will be a visit from a couple of pets and the PDSA will come in to chat about their role in animal care.

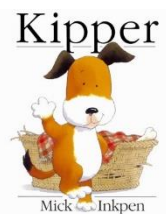
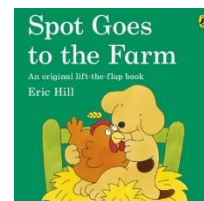
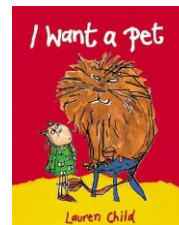
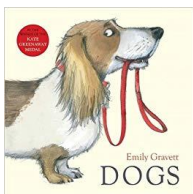
As February approaches, we will learn about the festival of Chinese New Year and will listen to Chinese dragon music and make dragon crafts.

Mr Yates and Mr Hardy, the Sports Coaches will lead PE each Monday for this half term. Children will stay in their uniform during this time. Earrings MUST be removed. Please speak to us if this is a problem.

*Dogs - E. Gravett*

*Vet - J. Nixon*

*Discover and Share Pets - A. Royston*



*I want a Pet - L. Child*

*Spot goes to the farm - E. Hill*

*Kipper - M. Inkpen*



### Pets Display

We would like to have a pet display in our classroom to link with the current topic. If you have a pet/pets, if possible please could children bring a photo in next week, (by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January at the latest) so that we can create some art work linked to this. If you would prefer to email a photo please email on: [office19@brinsley.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office19@brinsley.notts.sch.uk) **PLEASE ENSURE THE SUBJECT BOX OF THE EMAIL CONTAINS THE WORD: 'Pets'**. We will return any photos. If you don't have any pets, don't worry the children will be able to think of a pet that they would like to own!



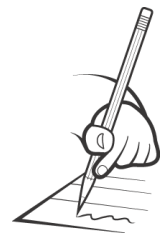
## Name writing



On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January, the older children will practise writing their names when they arrive for the session. We have been working with them on this 1:1 already and have set them up to begin in a way that we feel is appropriate for them individually. Our aim is for them to be able to write their first name by the end of their time in FS1. This is still two terms away. For some children this will take longer, whilst for others they may be independently writing their forename and surname by that time. Please try to avoid comparing your child to others. They are still developing at different times and this is fine. You may feel that your child is able to write their name already and should not need to over trace, however we have checked each child and it may be that they need only a few weeks of over tracing to develop better letter formation. We will keep an eye on development and move children on when we feel they are ready. We may add an extra line of one letter for them to practise.

When doing name writing with children of this age there are some things to take into consideration.

- Pencil grip (see below)
- Letter formation (Please find a support sheet attached)
- Recognition of the letters (this will come through the phonics)



This activity will only take a few minutes longer than drop off time currently does. Any children who are dropped off by PSLA will be supported by a member of their team.

- **MORNING CHILDREN ONLY:** Children sit in their key groups. Your child will know where they sit for snack time. All four tables will be used most days.
- Children complete only one line each day.
- Please leave the booklets open on the table. This will help us to collect them quickly and put them out each day.
- Pencils will be in the pot in the middle of each table.
- Children will still need to then take their name card to the bucket.

Pencil grip: There are a variety of grips. Many children still have a palmer grasp, which tends to develop into the other grips. We are aiming for a version of the tripod grip. This does depend on the strength of your child's finger muscles, which are still developing at this age. If you notice that your child is finding it difficult to grip the pencil lower down and they are using a palmer grasp, they may need a little practise building these muscles up. Ideas include getting them to pick up small items, threading beads onto string, using tweezers, playing with dough and using pegs. These are activities we also practise in school. These things take time and with encouragement and practise they will get there!

### Palmer grasp



Digital grip

### Pincer



Tripod

If you have any questions please ask.

## Rhyme of the Week

Our rhymes for this half term are listed below. The following website has animations for you to practise with your child at home.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/schoolradio/subjects/earlylearning/nurserysongs>

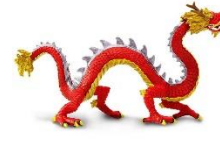
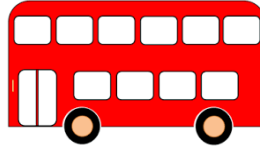
### January

7<sup>th</sup> - The Wheels on the bus

14<sup>th</sup> - One, two, buckle my shoe

21<sup>st</sup> - One big hippo balancing

28<sup>th</sup> - One finger, one thumb keep moving



### February

4<sup>th</sup> - Chinese New Year Dragon Dance Song (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=by5sTzh67fU>)

11<sup>th</sup> - Ten in the bed

## Outdoor Sound Wall

The FS 2 children, are looking at sound as part of their topic and are making a music wall outside. If you have any donations of pots, pans, wooden, plastic or metal spoons these would be greatly received.

## Clothing

We still have so many children with no names in their jumpers and cardigans. Please ensure items are clearly named, as it is so time consuming trying to match children with unnamed clothing when they take their jumpers and cardigans off.

The name labels that the company below produce, really are well worth looking at.

<https://www.mynametags.com/>



## WOW Moments

In the unit, we would love to hear about any recent achievements, news or exciting activities that you and your child have been up to at home. In the cloakroom area is our WOW board. Please write any exciting things you would like to share with us on a WOW slip located in the packet on the board. Please find attached some WOW slips.

### Wall of Fame



Once you've let us know in the unit, please go to the office and fill in the Wall of Fame sheet. This will mean your child will get a mention in assembly and can choose a prize from the goodie box.

## Dates for your Diary

*Details will follow for the activities below, please look out for whole school letters.*

15/1/19 - Phonics meeting

14/2/19 - Valentines Disco (details to follow)

15/2/19 - Last day & half term begins

25/2/19 - School starts back



If you would like to speak to us, the end of a session is usually the best time, however if we are unavailable we are more than happy to make an appointment to see you.

Thank you for your support.

The Foundation 1 team

# Wow Moment!

Write when your child  
does something amazing!

Full name:

Date:



**Wow!**

# Wow Moment!

Write when your child  
does something amazing!

Full name:

Date:



**Wow!**

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff

Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm

Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt

Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz