**March newsletter:**

It is beginning to feel a little Spring like in school and this month we will be focusing on new life and the beauty that is all around us in nature. We will be seeking to develop a love of nature in our children and a sense of being responsible for the care of the world that they live in.

**Topic/Theme**: New Life/Spring

**How you can help at home:** draw children’s attention to the numbers that are all around them. Point out numbers when out and about and count out things together.

Encourage your child to draw pictures and begin to add detail ie. Legs, arms, facial features on people

Talk about signs of Spring and new life and draw attention to these when out and about: flowers blooming, baby animals appearing in fields etc.

**Eco week: Mon 4thth-Friday 8th March:**

This is a big week of learning in school and our focus will be ‘growing and learning together’. Each day your child will receive something from school that will focus on sustainability and looking after our world. Please use this as an opportunity to talk to your child about how we can help look after our world.

On *Thursday 7th*, we will have our annual walk to school day. Staff will meet children **(accompanied by an adult**) at the parent and baby parking spaces at Tesco at 8.45am and we will all walk to school together. ( morning session children only)

**School playground**

Thank you for your cooperation during these works. These works are progressing well and we hope to be ready for after the Easter holidays. We will be planning for an exceptional closure day at the end of these works to allow staff to put the playground back together and reorganize everything for the children. As I do not have a finishing date for the project, I cannot tell you yet when this closure will be, but I will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible.

 **Pre school mid term questionnaire:**

As part of our ongoing school development plan, we have been looking at how we partner with parents in the nursery. I would really appreciate it if you could take a moment to complete this short survey. <https://forms.gle/TkYCsDH19EpTBMZ39>

Your opinions and thoughts matter to us as we strive to create the best possible learning environment for your little ones, so the information given anonymously through the survey will help inform our future practice. The survey will take no more than a few moments and will be open until Monday 18th

**St Patricks Day:**

We will be celebrating St Patrick’s day with the children on **Friday 15th** and we will be enjoying lots of ‘green’ activities. Children are welcome to wear something green to school on this day.

**Getting Ready to Learn:**

We are in the process of preparing home learning packs for your child. The activities contained in these are designed to help support your child and reinforce the learning intentions we have covered in school. Hopefully your child will enjoy doing some ‘homework’

Below is a website you may find useful for some tips and guidance:

<https://view.pagetiger.com/RISENI/parents>

**Tiny talkers parent workshop:**

We have been able to source the expertise of Shirley Ann Dickie ( speech and language therapist) to work with children in school through our extended schools programme. As part of this, Shirley Ann will be running a short parent session on MONDAY 4th MARCH at !pm in school ( approximately 45mins). This is open to all our parents and will give lots of useful ideas and tips on how you can support your child’s language development at home. Please make an effort to come along to this session. For further information please speak to Mrs Phair.

**Breakfast club:**

As mentioned in my previous newsletter, staffing for this service is proving difficult. I realise that for a very few parents this is an essential service and I want to try and support this as best as I can. Therefore, from Monday 4th March this will become a service that will need to be booked in advance ( via school office at eknns@btinternet.com). Please let us know on a Friday what you will require for the following week. The breakfast club will open at 8.30am and will remain £2 per session.

**Trip to Toddlersense ( Tempo Road)**

We have booked sessions for each class at this new facility. We will be walking the children across in small groups on the following dates:

FT class: Wednesday 6th March

AM and PM class( preschool only): Friday 8th March

**Urban Motion Dance:**

 We will be beginning a six week programme on Thursday 14th March with this company and children will be given the opportunity to explore movement and dance activities in small groups.

**Easter trip to Castlecoole:** Wednesday 27th March

This will be the last day of term and children and we will travel to Castlecoole for a picnic (weather permitting) and Easter egg hunt and maybe even a visit from the Easter bunny!

**School closures: Monday 18th March (St Patrick’s Day)**

**Last day of Term : Wednesday 27th march**

**First day of term 3: Monday 8th April**

**NB: we do not celebrate World Book day in Nursery as the children will take part in this when they are at Primary school**

**As always, can I remind you that staff are available at any stage to discuss your child and to support in any way that we can. Please speak to your child’s teacher at the gate or contact school and we can arrange a time for you to come in for a chat.**

**L.Phair**