Winterton Primary School & Nursery

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Dear Families

Following a very successful first half term in Early Years, it has been lovely to see how well the children have settled into our setting. They are really thriving in our learning environment and making the most of our indoor and outdoor provision. We are so pleased with how confidently they are exploring, playing and learning together.

Family Photographs
To build on our learning from last half term, we would love each child to bring in a family photograph. The children often enjoy talking about their families and sharing their experiences, so it would be lovely for them to have a photograph to show their friends and include in our learning environment.

Slippers and Wellies
As you may have noticed, we don't wear outdoor shoes in our Early Years provision. This helps us keep the environment clean, comfortable and homely for the children.
As we move into the colder months, please could you provide your child with:

- A pair of slippers for indoor learning.
- A pair of wellies for outdoor learning.

Please make sure these are named. If you need a spare pair of wellies please ask as we have loads.

Our Learning This Half Term
Our topic this half term is People Who Help Us. We will be learning about doctors, nurses, police officers, vets, firefighters and other important people in our community. We will also continue exploring our local area and developing the children's understanding of where they live.
If you or someone you know works in one of these roles and would be happy to come into school to talk to the children, we would love to hear from you!

English and Early Writing
We will continue developing our writing and mark making through our special books, including *All About Me*, *My Favourite Story Books* and *My Special People*. Our Nursery children will also be having a go at these activities in ways appropriate to their stage of development. Our ethos is 'all marks have meaning' and we encourage children to express themselves through making marks.

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Phonics
This half term in Nursery, we will be exploring sounds through body percussion, rhythm and listening activities. Reception children will continue learning and practising their phonics sounds, building confidence in reading and writing.
We will also begin sharing phonics links for reception pupils through Tapestry for you to use at home with your child. These will be simple videos to help your child practise the sounds and skills we are learning in school. Even a few minutes of practice together can make a real difference to your child's confidence and progress.

Maths
We follow the White Rose Maths scheme, which supports children in developing their early mathematical understanding through practical activities, exploration and play.
You can find more information about our maths learning and wider Early Years curriculum on our school website:
Winterton Primary School & Nursery - Early Years Curriculum Information

PE and Expressive Art and Design
In PE, our focus this half term is Dance, where children will explore movement, rhythm and expressing themselves through music.
Our focus artist is Georgia O'Keeffe. We will be looking at her beautiful artwork and encouraging the children to explore colour, shape and natural forms through their own creative activities.

Christmas Celebrations
We are also really looking forward to beginning our Christmas celebrations in class and preparing for our very first Nativity performance together! This is always such a special time of year, and we cannot wait to share it with you.
Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are really pleased with how well the children have started the year and are looking forward to another exciting half term of learning, exploring and having fun!

Best Wishes,
The Early Years Team