



Nursery Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

September 2020

# Marvellous Me



**Welcome to Silsden Nursery,**

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new children and their families and welcome back our existing families!

Firstly we would like to explain who all the adults are working in Nursery. Mrs Travers is the teacher and Mrs Rowling and Mrs Brown are the learning support assistants, our photographs are on display in the cloakroom to help put the right face to the name. Mrs Rowling and myself have a number of years experience working here at Silsden Primary and we welcome Miss Brown as a new member of the Silsden Primary Team.

Our main aim this first half term is to ensure your child settles in and is happy to come to Nursery. We are always happy to help and want to work in partnership with you to make sure that all the children have a successful and happy first half term.

Starting Nursery is always an anxious time for parents and this year particularly so. We ask that you follow the schools Coronavirus guidance. The safety of everyone, children and staff is vital to enable a smooth transition into Nursery and your help and understanding will help to maintain safe operating procedures.

Each half term we cover a different topic and our topic this half term is 'Marvellous Me!' We will be thinking a lot about ourselves, our body and our senses, as well as learning all about the Nursery rules and routines. Please see the attached overview of the activities we have planned.

Just a few other things to mention.

## Home Learning

At the end of the overview is a section called 'Home Learning'. Please spend some time over the half term completing the activities. We have a display wall especially for home learning and would love to see some examples of the learning taking place at home. There is no set out way to complete the tasks, you can be as creative as you like!

## Home Reading

As a school we are keen to develop a love a reading in our children. Nursery children first need to hear the language of stories to expand their vocabulary and general knowledge. Sometimes children like the same story read to them again and again, this helps them to comprehend what has been read to them, gaining more understanding. As children develop a love of stories they have improved attention spans and better concentration.

To help develop these important skills we hope to set up a home reading scheme. We have had this in the past and it has always been very popular with the children. At the moment due to the Covid -19 restrictions we are unable to offer this scheme but will let you know as soon as we can get it up and running. In the meantime please continue to read the books you have at home and remember repeating a favourite story is a good thing.

## Snack

Snack is provided everyday and includes a drink of milk or water and fruit. School will also provide a variety other snacks each day such as sandwiches, toast, crackers and biscuits. We will be having snack as a whole group and want it to be an opportunity for the children to try new things, socialise with their friends and learn the importance of saying please and thank you. Each day children will take it in turns to help prepare the snack, hand it out to the group and tidy it away.

**Please let us know of any food allergies if you have not already done so.**

## Registering for Milk

Please be aware that if you would like your child to have a drink of milk at school you first need to register them. The milk is free for Nursery children but if they are not registered they will not receive the milk. If you have any problems or have not received a form please see a member of the Nursery team.

## Home Time

Please be patient with us until we get to know all of your children, but particularly whilst we learn to match which parent/grandparent/carer goes with each child. As you can imagine matching the children to their correct adult is quite difficult at first. At home time we encourage the children to wait by their coat peg until we call them, so that we can ensure no child goes outside alone.

NB There is a short break for staff between the morning and afternoon sessions, therefore can we please politely ask that children are collected on time. Am collection times 11.35am-11-45am. Pm collection times 3.20pm -3.30pm

## Weekend Bear

Each week one lucky child from each session will be chosen to take Weekend Bear home. (We have 4 sets of bears and will only send two sets home each week allowing us to rotate them so that the items can be washed between visits to different homes.)

This is a PSED activity (Personal, Social and Emotional Development) so we ask that you help your child to look after Weekend Bear by brushing his/her teeth and fur, putting pyjamas on for bed, and reading a bedtime story. We would love to know what Weekend Bear has been up to, so if you have time, please can you write a brief account of Weekend Bear's time with you, perhaps telling us what your child particularly enjoyed about having Weekend Bear at home.

Thank you very much, in anticipation of a lovely term and year at Silsden Nursery!

Mrs Travers and the Nursery Team.

# Marvellous Me

## PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT - Making Relationships, Self-Confidence and Self-Awareness & Managing Feelings and Behaviour

Getting to know each other through carpet time activities. Ring games, parachute games and circle games. (Roll the ball to a friend game and The 'hello hat' song;

Who wears the hello hat, tell us your name 'o',  
"Annabelle"

Hello Annabelle, pass on the hello hat  
and start again.

We will use the stories' to help us learn why Nursery rules are important. We will also focus on routines such as snack time, what happens at tidy up time? How to behave at carpet time, taking turns and making friends.

Exploring the Nursery both indoors and out and making choices about where they would like to play. (Adults working alongside to model play and how to use the available equipment and materials).

**Scarf activities—There's no one quite like me!**  
Throughout a variety of activities the children will learn about the features of a face and how we all look different. They will focus on their own faces and make portraits thinking about their own particular features.

**Feel your heart go pumpety pump, over a number of sessions the children will investigate all the different things they can do with their bodies and learn about the important job our heart does.**

**An Emotions area is set up using the story of the Colour Monster. Children who may be struggling to explain how they are feeling can use this story to help them express and overcome any anxieties.**

## COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE - Listening and Attention, Understanding & Speaking

Singing Time - Learning songs and rhymes about ourselves

Head shoulders knees and toes

If you're happy and you know it

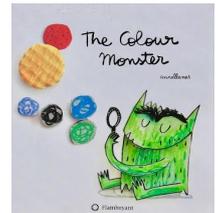
I have 10 Little fingers and they all belong to me

I have a body

Everybody do this

**Story Time -**

- The Colour Monster—Anna Llenas
- Let's Make Faces - Hanoch Piven
- Ready Steady Mo! - Mo Farah and Kes Gray
- My Five Senses—Aliko Brandenburg
- Child of the week stories.



**Focused Activity** - Can you draw a picture of yourself? Can you write your name? Can you tell us something about yourself?

**Responding to simple instructions - Baking activity**

Decorating biscuits with funny faces - Explain what we will be making and get the children to follow instructions to gather the equipment needed.

Talk about the features of a face before decorating the biscuit.

## LITERACY - Reading & Writing

- **Singing** - learning our topic based songs and learning our routine songs e.g. 'Come and sit down it's carpet time', 'Twinkle twinkle little star fold your arms where you are'.
- Finding name cards in the environment - e.g. peg and writing area.
- Finding signs in the environment relating to our rules. E.g. How many children to work in each area cards, rules, toilet signs, labels on shelves showing us where to tidy resources away.
- Phonic based activities - listening walks, sound stories, matching sounds (sound lotto), socks and shakers, Mrs Brown has a box.
- Lots of mark making activities will be available both inside and out. Adults to scribe children's explanations of what these marks represent.

### UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD - People and Communities, The World & Technology

- Learning about the 5 senses. Feely box, food tasting, sound lotto.
- Listening area - provide different types of music to listen to.
- Drawing self and talking about self.
- Power point game focusing on how we are all different.
- Learning how to use the computer and to complete a game on the white board.

### MATHEMATICS - Numbers & Shape, Space and Measure

- Number songs - I have 10 little fingers and they all belong to me. Count fingers to check.
- Counting objects around us. Focusing on our body parts - how many eyes, fingers etc.
- Recording language as children build models with construction materials - do they use language relating to number?
- Glove and finger puppets- five speckled frogs, ducks, monkeys.
- Ten green bottles song and props.
- Lots of number recognition games focusing initially on numbers 1-5.

### PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT - Moving and Handling, Health and Self Care

- Outdoor activities - Getting coats and wellies on. Bikes and scooters, large construction, balls, balance beams etc.
- Mark making will be available in all areas of provision inside and outside to develop both gross motor movements and fine motor.
- Learning rules about staying safe during COVID-19. Handwashing procedure, social distancing, catch it, bin it, kill it. We will use songs like this one— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zAdim7xw7d8> We will have signs in the environment and have lots of fun activities to help us remember.
- Snack Time - Children will be encouraged to wash their hands, try new things, learn good manners and tidy up after themselves.
- Children will be encouraged to see to their own toileting and dressing needs as much as is possible.

### EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN - Exploring and Using Media and Materials & Being Imaginative

- Learning new topic based songs
- Explore colour in paint mixing area and textures in tactile area - clay, corn flour, cornflakes, shaving foam etc.
- Learning how to use tools for baking, technology & painting. E.g. scissors, hole punch, crimpers, etc.
- Making faces with biscuits and sweets thinking about all the different parts of the face and what to use for each part.



- Explore role play in all provision areas. (Home corner will be a house).

### Ideas to try at home:

- Sing our topic based songs—Lots of the tunes can be found on YouTube.
- Find out about who is in your family—How many? Who is the oldest? Who is the youngest?
- Draw a picture of your family and bring it to school to show everyone.
- Practice writing your name. Do you know what the letters are called?