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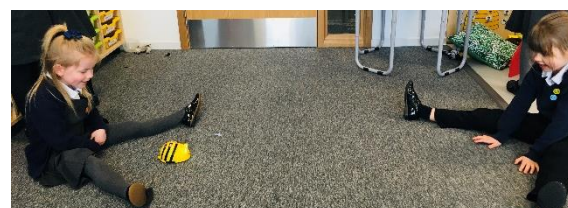
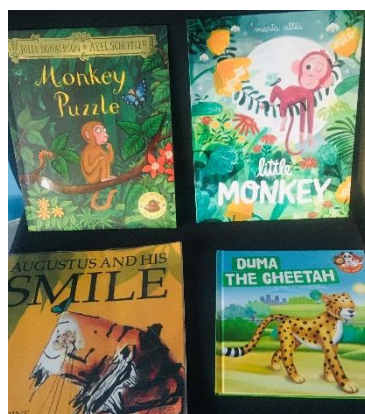
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are really into the swing of things in term 4 and the learning opportunities for the children in our nursery and reception classes have been plentiful. We hope that you have enjoyed following them on our IKB school and IKB Bright Sparks Facebook pages, through Tapestry and most importantly through your children coming home and telling you all about what they have been experiencing.



IKB Bright Sparks Nursery is continuing to grow and evolve, with more children joining us all the time. We have an ethos of getting to know our children really well, so that we can recognise their next steps, follow their lead in play and plan in the moment to extend and develop their learning. Since we opened in mid-January, we have added a new learning environment in our muddy area and we have developed our indoor and outdoor areas into even more interesting and stimulating places for our children to explore. As part of the IKB community, we celebrated World Book Day, including opening our Bright Sparks Lending Library to enhance the children's love of books and stories. If you are interested in looking at the books on offer and borrowing them then please ask a member of the IKB Bright Sparks team when you next attend.



Our reception class have been absolutely engrossed in our 'Jungles' topic this term and we have seen just how engaged they are by witnessing the progress they are all making day-to-day, at just over the half way point in the academic year. So far in 2021 they have really matured as learners and have been using the knowledge and skills they have learned in different contexts, both indoors and outdoors, to demonstrate this. This term has again offered many other learning opportunities: our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) learning, celebrating World Book Day, the continuation of forest school, art and design learning and much, much more. Miss Fahy cannot wait to see all parents/ carers over our parents evening dates on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March. If you haven't booked up yet, please do so with Miss Fahy or Miss Evans when you are next on site.





It gives me great excitement to introduce to you our year 1 teacher for the 2021-22 academic year. Miss Aldridge is an experienced year 1 teacher who will be joining team IKB officially from September, but will be working with us well before then to ensure an effective induction to her role and a smooth and strong transition for our current reception class, ready for year 1. During a recent interview process, Miss Aldridge was the outstanding candidate throughout and it was clear that her educational values and vision for teaching matched everything we believe in at IKB.

When describing herself as a teacher Miss Aldridge commented that she is “a creative and enthusiastic teacher who loves experiential learning and learning through play, while also promoting a safe, happy and fun learning environment where every child can thrive and become their best self.” Miss Aldridge will be another fantastic addition to our staff team and we cannot wait for her to begin with us.

**\*\* DATES FOR THE DIARY \*\***

**Regrettably there are events that we had planned for parents and carers to learn alongside their children in term 4 that we have had to either postpone or cancel due to COVID-19 restrictions. Please be reassured that we will be ensuring that your children still get to experience all the events we had planned and that we will make sure we share them with you all via Tapestry and our social media pages. Below are the revised dates for your diary for term 4:**

TERM 4	
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents/ carers evening 1 – more information to follow
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents/ carers evening 2 – more information to follow
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	The launch of our Easter bonnet showcase
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day – children can come dressed in anything that makes them smile as the theme this year is ‘share a smile’ – children can bring in a small donation to Comic Relief if they wish to
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent/ carer maths workshop with Miss Fahy will now be virtual – more info to follow
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Reception class photo day
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	End of term celebration assembly with Easter bonnet showcase
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Nursery and reception knowledge organisers and class newsletters for term 5 to be sent home
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Last day of term 4 for the children
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Staff INSET training day
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Good Friday public holiday
Week of 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Nursery closed
Week of 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Nursery open
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Term 5 begins with a WOW day to introduce the children to their new topic learning!

On behalf of all IKB staff, a huge thank you for supporting our joined up work with the Trussell Trust food bank. This idea was born through our parents/ carers and has been supported by so many people in our school community, but also in the wider Wellington community. We have really enjoyed meeting local residents and working together towards a common and really worthwhile goal. When I visited the foodbank 2 weeks ago with an entire car full of food the staff there were blown away by the generosity of our community and stated that so many local families would benefit from our donations. We are continuing to act as a collection point for the Trussell Trust so if you do have any additional food that you wish to donate then please drop it in. Please spread the word of what we are doing to others too.

Children and staff alike are thoroughly enjoying term 4 and we look forward to continuing to share all our IKB learning opportunities with you over the coming weeks and months. Seeing the children in both our nursery and reception making great progress across all learning areas has given us such a sense of pride. Enjoy a great weekend and remember to seize any opportunities for learning that you come across, because learning doesn’t just happen in the classroom.

As always, thank you for your continued trust and support. We greatly appreciate it.

Mr Healey  
IKB Headteacher