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## Upper Foundation Stage- Spring 1- 2020

Happy New Year! Welcome back to school! We have another busy half term ahead of us and we hope you find this information useful and that it will give you ideas to support your child at home. This half term our topic is 'Let's go on a journey! Our topic starts with a focus on a journey to the North Pole and the Winter season. We will then learn about different ways to travel.

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| <p><b>Literacy:</b> Our topic stories this half term will be 'Lost and Found' 'The Snow Bears' and 'Whatever Next.' We will be writing lists of items we would take to space, missing posters and post cards.<br/>In phonics, we will continue to take part in our daily Read Write Inc sessions continuing to learn our letter sounds and particularly focusing on blending and segmenting words ready for reading.</p>   |
| <p><b>Mathematical development:</b> Our maths focus begins to look at numbers in depth and explore different ways of making different amounts. We will be working on finding one more and one less than a group of 1-5, then 1-10 objects and understanding how to represent numbers using our fingers, marks on paper and practically with objects.</p>   |
| <p><b>Communication and Language:</b> This half term includes retelling stories and joining in with repeated phrases. We will be enjoying a range of different stories- please encourage your child to bring their favorite stories to share with the class. We will be encouraging children to listen to and answer questions by talking in sentences, extending their vocabulary with new words from our topic and sharing their ideas with each other.</p>  |
| <p><b>Physical development:</b> We will be very busy this half term strengthening our fine motor skills, holding a pencil near its point between first two fingers and thumb with good control to write sentences draw pictures and form some letters. The children will be given the opportunity to continue to practise their cutting skills when making Chinese lanterns. We will also develop our gross motor skill through practising ball skills, throwing, catching, rolling and bouncing. In PE our main focus will be Gymnastics. Please ensure your child continues to bring their PE kit into school each week.</p> |
| <p><b>Personal, Social and Emotional development:</b> As part of our personal, social and emotional development we will build on children's confidence so that they become more outgoing and confident in new social situations. We will continue to support children in sharing and taking turns as well as becoming independent learners who enjoy the responsibility of carrying out independent tasks. Monday will continue to be our celebration day. Several children will be chosen for the 'Star Award' and 'Good Behaviour' certificate.</p>  |
| <p><b>Understanding the world:</b> As part of finding out about the world we will be learning about the season winter. We are hoping to experience some snow! We will build on this by learning about winter/arctic animals and how our environment looks during winter. When finding out about our people and communities we will be learning about the 'Chinese New Year' and how this is celebrated in China. In technology we will use iPads to find out information and to take photographs and voice recordings. We will learn about different types of travel and how vehicles work.</p>                                |
| <p><b>Expressive Art and Design:</b> We will be making winter texture circles, Chinese lanterns, boats that float and a number of different vehicles in our model making area- any donations of egg boxes, yoghurt pots, margarine tubs and milk bottle tops will be greatly appreciated. We will be exploring the different sounds of instruments to accompany our new topic songs. Thank you for your support, The Upper Foundation Stage Team.</p>  |

**Attendance Matters – Please try to be at school everyday to maximise all the learning opportunities school provides as well as building friendships and good routines.**