

Happy New Year and Thank you

Thank you for all the generous presents we received at the end of term, we hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and wish you all the best for 2017.



New Topic



The new topic for the spring term is Proud Princesses, Noble Knights and Creepy Castles! This topic will allow the children to explore history, whilst also looking at the modern royal family and their residences. They will look at various exciting fiction books around the theme as well as exploring non-fiction texts. Each classroom in EYFS and Key Stage 1 will have a castle themed role play area for the children to explore and develop their narrative and role play skills. There will also be opportunities for construction of castles in a Lego workshop and an exciting school trip to Bramhall Hall. Please see the table below for more detail of what the children will be covering in each subject.



Stay and play & shared reading

English	Recounts, Narrative, descriptive writing, character profile, non-chronological reports grammar, punctuation and spelling.
Maths	Number and Place value Mass/weight 2-D and 3-D Shape Shape castles Counting and money Length and Mass/weight Addition and subtraction Position and direction Time
Understanding the World	Materials - linked to how things were made in a castle. Who lived in castles and what did they do? Human geography, why were castles built where they are and what features are around them?
Expressive arts and design	Portraits of kings and queens, coats of arms, flags, making crowns, dancing. Paul Klee – castle pictures
Physical Development	Medieval dance and games, balancing and travelling
PSHE	SEAL: Being a good friend, going for Goals, Health and Wellbeing , Growing and changing , keeping safe. E Safety: Think You Know. British Values: The Rule of Law
RE	Stories of love and forgiveness and Easter
Music	Medieval music, instruments and entertainment, keeping a beat.

Stay and play is a new exciting opportunity for parents of Reception children to come and learn through play with their child. This will enable you as parents to experience many of the learning activities offered at Lower park.

Parents are invited to come and join us in the classroom at 2.30pm on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January. There will be guidance on how you can support your child's learning through play including speech prompts and questioning.

We are also offering a chance for parents to come and join us for story time. Parents will be able to read with groups of children sharing story books. Story telling is a key part of a child's foundations to become confident readers.

Parents are invited to come and join us in the classroom at 2.30pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February.



### Welly Wednesday

Your child does not need to bring wellies to school on a Wednesday anymore as the outdoor activities will be integrated within a school week.

### School Trip

In the Spring term the children will have the opportunity to visit Bramhall Hall as part of their learning about Knights, Princesses and Castles. We hope the children will enjoy this trip and that it will enhance their topic work.



We look forward to another exciting and fun filled term at Lower Park!

### The Usual Reminders:



### Water Bottles

Please send in a water bottle each day for your child to have access to during lessons. These should be taken home each day and fresh water sent in.

Frequent access to water improves concentration and encourages good health.

### Reading Records

Thank you for the support you show with regards to commenting in your child's reading record. It is invaluable to teachers to know that your child is receiving support from home in reading and your comments help us to decide whether to change books or move levels. **Please aim to read with your child for 15 minutes every night and comment in their record book.** We endeavour to listen to your child twice a week in school, one to one and through Guided Reading. To help us do this we will be changing the childrens' books once a week, on a specific day, which will be different for each group. To see when your child will change their book please see the notice on the Reception classroom door.



### Library Books

Your children have the opportunity to visit the library in the week, please remember to return the book to school after reading as we have a number of outstanding library books that need to be returned.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Whittaker and Mrs Marshall