



## Ilminster Avenue Nursery School

### “Igniting Children’s Passions Through Play”

#### March Newsletter 2024– Term 4

#### Welcome to Term 4!

I literally cannot believe we already in term 4! This year seems to be whipping by! This term always feels more hopeful as the spring flowers start to emerge and bring us a bit of colour. Let’s hope that it also starts to warm up a bit more too!

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you for the donations we received for Max and Mason’s fund. We raised £137. We will send this to their families on behalf of Ilminster Avenue Nursery School. It felt important to us to mark this tragic event as a school. We thank you for supporting us to do this.

On a different note, we are really happy that our sandpit is finally finished and the children can use it again! I’m not sure the cleaners are quite in agreement, but the children absolutely love it! We would love to add to our new sand kitchens that Gareth built for us, so if you have any old mixing bowls, saucepans or spoons that you don’t use anymore, please donate them to us so the children can make excellent use of them!

**Mandy Collier-King**

#### E-Safety

Keeping children safe when using the technology is something that Parents/Carers need to be aware of even when they are very young. Teach your child some simple rules from the time they begin to engage with technology. Use secure and legal sites to download games. Websites such as CBBC have great games for children that you know will be safe and appropriate. Young children become very good at finding what they want top view. It is important as a Parent/Carer that you are aware of what they are accessing. Use Children’s You Tube as this a safer forum. Sit with your child whilst they play games etc so that you can be sure they are safe.

#### Staffing Updates

Lisa Banger (Raindrops) will be moving on to pastures new! She is moving to a new job at West Town lane. We are going to miss her terribly but know she will be amazing in her new role. We know you will join us in wishing her all the best. We have already begun recruitment for her role. We would also like to officially welcome Christine and Sarah to our school! Christine is working part time in Sunroom and Sarah will be joining us on March 4<sup>th</sup> to work in Raindrops.

#### World Book Day

World Book Day will take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at our school this year. We would love if the children could dress up as their favourite book character or in their PJ’s ready for a “bedtime story”!

The children will be having lots of lovely activities to encourage a love of nooks and stories. They will be having cosy book shares, story treasure hunts and making props for their own story telling.

If your child has a favourite book that they would like to bring and share, then please do but make sure they have their name in the front of the book. Thank you.

#### Family Link

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April we will be introducing a “Coffee and Chat” session in our Community Room. The session will run from 11am -12.45pm to coincide with Wednesday drop of and pick up times. The aim for the sessions is to create a safe space to share concerns, seek advice and meet other parents/carers. Lucy Hobbs, our Family Support Worker will be facilitating. We hope that the sessions will be co-lead with you the parents: we hope to respond to your needs and requests to plan the next sessions. They will run weekly, every Wednesday. Everyone is welcome! Please come, we would love to see you there!



### Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March: World Book day

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March: Come into school to “Play a Game”

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March: Inset day

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March: Last day of term

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April: Term 5 starts



*The beautiful thing about Learning is that no-one can take it away” BB King*

### Term 4 Curriculum

This term our Curriculum focus is “Play A Game”. The children will be learning all the skills needed to play a variety of games, both inside and outside. The children will be exploring all areas of the curriculum through this focus:

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development:** The children will be supported to become increasingly independent with solving their own conflicts and making independent decisions and choices.

**Language Development:** Building on the new vocabulary from last term as well as beginning to understand sequencing. They will be encouraged to create their own ideas for stories through “Tales Toolkit”.

**Physical Development:** Building on their use of tools from last term, especially their scissor skills. They will be developing their wrist pivot to make controlled marks with chalk, paint and pens. They will be supported to draw figures that are becoming recognisable.

**Maths:** Continuing to explore “subitising” skills. They will notice groups up to 5 and link this to “how many” e.g. counting spaces in a board game.

**Literacy:** Exploring rhyme and rhythm in familiar stories, especially traditional tales. They will explore stories with problems to solve and make suggestions on how to do this.

**Expressive Art and Design:** Moving to different types of movement and talking about “happy” music “sad” music. They will be using play dough and clay to make different shapes and creations.

**Understanding of the World:** Explore the impact of different forces e.g. rolling, pressing, squashing and exploring other forces in the environment e.g. magnets, pedals on bikes, using ramps.

On **Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March** we would like to invite parents to join us to play games. The workshops will be just before the time you collect your child at the end of their session at 2.30pm. We are hoping for better weather so we can play playground games as well as familiar board games! These sessions provide a great opportunity for you to learn about what your children have been learning. Hope to see you there!

### Support for Learning!

We have lots of leaflets in the foyer for you to take. The aim of these leaflets is to help you to support your children’s learning at home. They contain information about what we are doing at Nursery and some simple ideas of ways you can extend this learning at home. Please come and take what you need!

