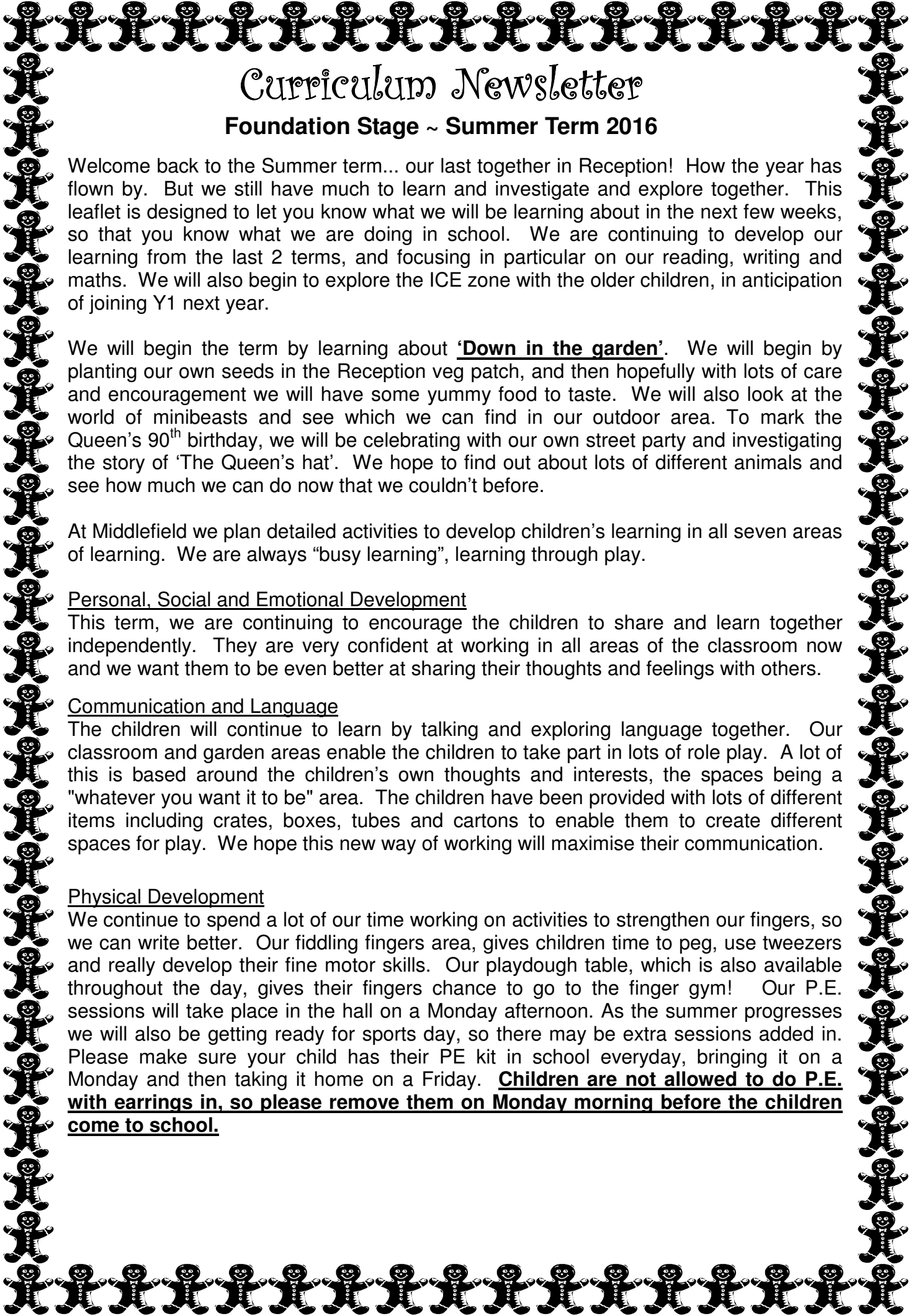




Curriculum Newsletter

Foundation Stage ~ Summer Term 2016

Welcome back to the Summer term... our last together in Reception! How the year has flown by. But we still have much to learn and investigate and explore together. This leaflet is designed to let you know what we will be learning about in the next few weeks, so that you know what we are doing in school. We are continuing to develop our learning from the last 2 terms, and focusing in particular on our reading, writing and maths. We will also begin to explore the ICE zone with the older children, in anticipation of joining Y1 next year.

We will begin the term by learning about 'Down in the garden'. We will begin by planting our own seeds in the Reception veg patch, and then hopefully with lots of care and encouragement we will have some yummy food to taste. We will also look at the world of minibeasts and see which we can find in our outdoor area. To mark the Queen's 90th birthday, we will be celebrating with our own street party and investigating the story of 'The Queen's hat'. We hope to find out about lots of different animals and see how much we can do now that we couldn't before.

At Middlefield we plan detailed activities to develop children's learning in all seven areas of learning. We are always "busy learning", learning through play.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

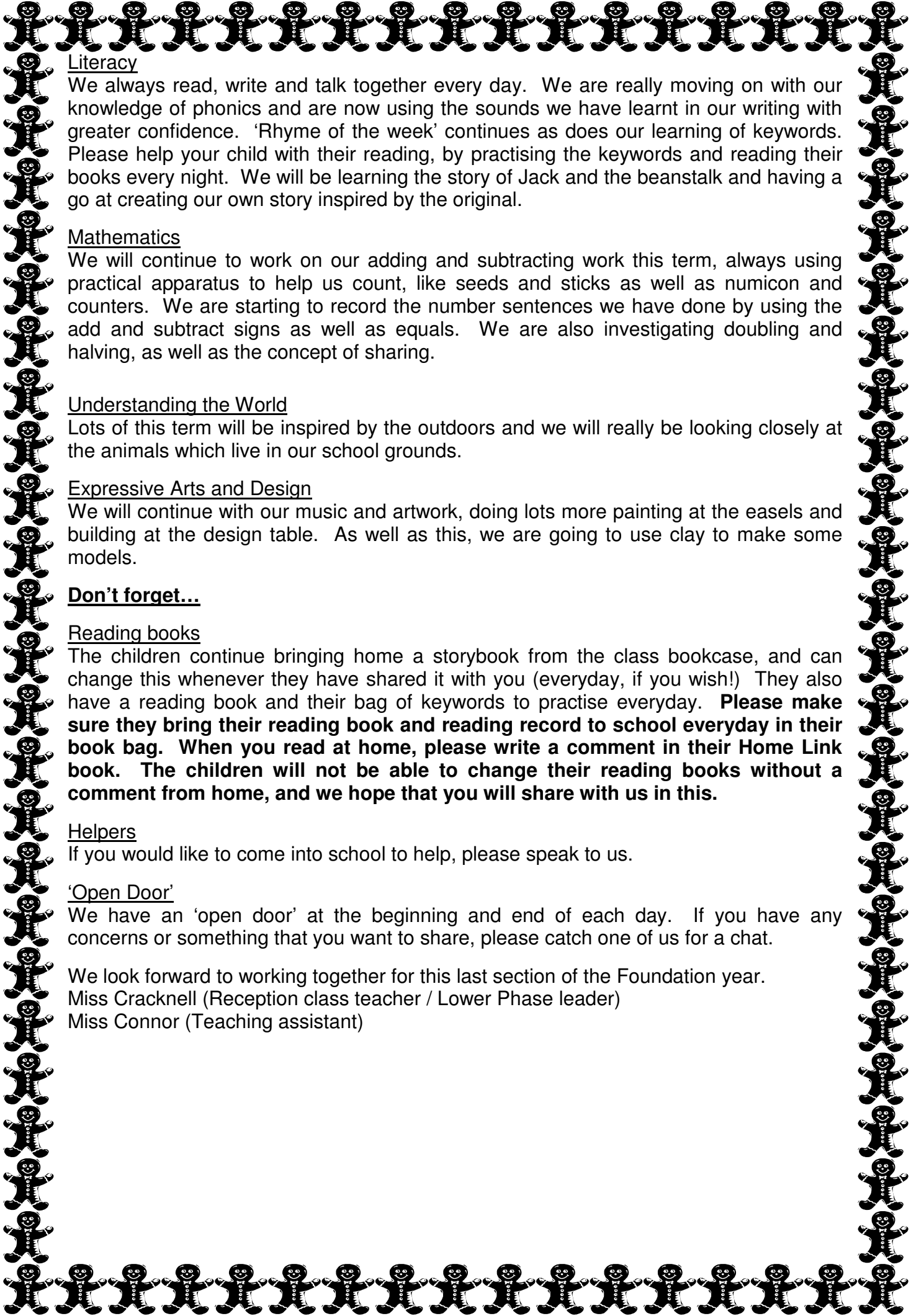
This term, we are continuing to encourage the children to share and learn together independently. They are very confident at working in all areas of the classroom now and we want them to be even better at sharing their thoughts and feelings with others.

Communication and Language

The children will continue to learn by talking and exploring language together. Our classroom and garden areas enable the children to take part in lots of role play. A lot of this is based around the children's own thoughts and interests, the spaces being a "whatever you want it to be" area. The children have been provided with lots of different items including crates, boxes, tubes and cartons to enable them to create different spaces for play. We hope this new way of working will maximise their communication.

Physical Development

We continue to spend a lot of our time working on activities to strengthen our fingers, so we can write better. Our fiddling fingers area, gives children time to peg, use tweezers and really develop their fine motor skills. Our playdough table, which is also available throughout the day, gives their fingers chance to go to the finger gym! Our P.E. sessions will take place in the hall on a Monday afternoon. As the summer progresses we will also be getting ready for sports day, so there may be extra sessions added in. Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school everyday, bringing it on a Monday and then taking it home on a Friday. **Children are not allowed to do P.E. with earrings in, so please remove them on Monday morning before the children come to school.**



Literacy

We always read, write and talk together every day. We are really moving on with our knowledge of phonics and are now using the sounds we have learnt in our writing with greater confidence. 'Rhyme of the week' continues as does our learning of keywords. Please help your child with their reading, by practising the keywords and reading their books every night. We will be learning the story of Jack and the beanstalk and having a go at creating our own story inspired by the original.

Mathematics

We will continue to work on our adding and subtracting work this term, always using practical apparatus to help us count, like seeds and sticks as well as numicon and counters. We are starting to record the number sentences we have done by using the add and subtract signs as well as equals. We are also investigating doubling and halving, as well as the concept of sharing.

Understanding the World

Lots of this term will be inspired by the outdoors and we will really be looking closely at the animals which live in our school grounds.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will continue with our music and artwork, doing lots more painting at the easels and building at the design table. As well as this, we are going to use clay to make some models.

Don't forget...

Reading books

The children continue bringing home a storybook from the class bookcase, and can change this whenever they have shared it with you (everyday, if you wish!) They also have a reading book and their bag of keywords to practise everyday. **Please make sure they bring their reading book and reading record to school everyday in their book bag. When you read at home, please write a comment in their Home Link book. The children will not be able to change their reading books without a comment from home, and we hope that you will share with us in this.**

Helpers

If you would like to come into school to help, please speak to us.

'Open Door'

We have an 'open door' at the beginning and end of each day. If you have any concerns or something that you want to share, please catch one of us for a chat.

We look forward to working together for this last section of the Foundation year.

Miss Cracknell (Reception class teacher / Lower Phase leader)

Miss Connor (Teaching assistant)