



# FS1 Spring 1 Newsletter

Welcome to our new children and their families!

Important—Please note the changes below:

PE is now on a Friday  
Our Twitter handle is now @EstcourtFS1

Our Stay and Play session this term will be on:

Tuesday 9th February  
10.00 and 2.00

Come and join us for an hour!

## Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to ensure uninterrupted progress and to enable children to exceed their potential.

Good attendance is important because: your child needs to be in the academy to be able to learn and achieve; lessons are taught in a sequence and it can be difficult to catch up if a lesson is missed; for children to have relationships with others and to form lasting friendships; for a child's confidence to attempt new work and to work alongside others.

## Green behaviour

**Being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing!**

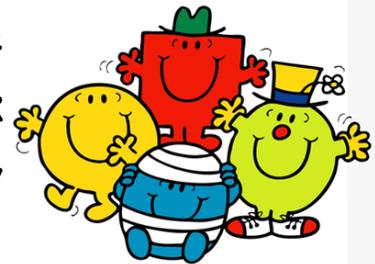
Green behaviour is expected to be shown constantly by all children. Green behaviour consists of trying hard in their work, being courteous and polite (saying please and thank you), showing respect to others and arriving at school in time for registration.

Our Mr. Men reward wall is being well used this term and all of the children have shown how eager they are to please and to make good choices at nursery—well done everyone! Keep up the good work!



## Literacy

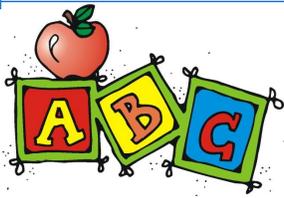
We have already kick-started our brand new term with the Mr. Men! The children have enjoyed reading about Mr. Bump this week and we will soon begin our Talk for Writing text called 'Mr. Topsy-Turvy and Mr. Nonsense have a Perfect Day'. When we read this, we will use our 'Talk for Writing' signifiers. These are actions that we make with our hands, a little like sign language which helps us to remember the story. Talk to your children about which Mr. Men they know and which one they are most like!



## Maths

We will be learning our numbers up to 20 for older children. We will sing number songs and playing number games on the interactive whiteboard which will help us to understand number. For our new children, we will work on numbers to 10. We use a 'Singapore Maths' method to help us to understand the concept and value of number. If you would like to support your child with Singapore Maths (touch counting objects) at home and you would like further information, please see Mrs. Hutchinson. Numbers are everywhere in our environment—while out and about with your children, try number hunting!





## Phonics

Our new children will be working on Phase 1 Phonics. This means the children will be tuning their ears to do good listening. We will play listening games to help us. The older children are now working on Phase 2 where we are learning our letter sounds. I know some of the children have been singing our Jolly Phonics songs at home and are really developing their letter recognition skills. Thank you to those parents who have been joining us for 'Phonics Fridays' where I offer demonstrations of phonics games which you can play at home to support your child. It would be great to see more of you at these sessions—they are every Friday at 8.45 to 9.15 and in the afternoon at 2.00 to 2.30. I look forward to seeing you.

## P.E. / Sport

We have P.E. on a Friday. If your child attends nursery on a Friday, they will need to attend **ready** for the lesson and dressed accordingly in clothes suitable for physical exercise. Earrings should be removed or covered for this lesson for your child's safety and long hair must be tied back. We have been learning various ways of moving, sometimes at speed so we need to be aware of who is around us so we don't bump into each other!



## Homework

Homework will be set each week. Your child will have a homework folder that will be taken home each Friday. Please return this folder before Thursday of the next week so that fresh homework can be given.



## Cooking Day

We make tasty dishes with your children every **Thursday**. Please look out for a list of ingredients needed on our door. If you could choose just one thing to bring, this really help us to make this worthwhile activity happen. Thank you!



### Clothing worn at school

Could you please ensure that your child's name is clearly marked in each item of clothing as this helps greatly when things are lost, misplaced or unintentionally taken home by other children. Please check your child hasn't brought anything home by mistake. We may label clothing (not coats or outdoor shoes) if it is not clearly marked. Sometimes, there may be three or four identical coats so to be sure that you are taking the right one, it is advised to write your child's name on the label.



Remember to keep up to date with us! We are aware that some parents prefer their children not to appear on social media, but you can still follow the class Twitter account. It is a great way to keep up to date with what is happening at school and often provides a doorway into a meaningful conversation with your child. This is a great way to develop their communication and listening skills. I often hear that when young children are asked what they have done at school that day, the reply is "Nothing!" - well, Twitter will help you to see exactly what has been going on...and please be assured, your child will never come to Estcourt Primary Academy and do nothing!



@estcourtFS1

Website:

<http://www.estcourtprimary.org.uk/>