



**Play Along**  
 Millbrook Primary School  
 Elmfield.  
 Shevington  
 Direct line : 01257 40103



Dear Parent/Carer

Summer Term 1



**Here we are at the beginning of the Summer Term, we hope you had a lovely break over the Easter holidays and didn't eat too much Chocolate!!!!**

**For those who have been busy decorating a hard boiled egg for the Friends of Millbrook egg - decorating competition, the eggs will be judged on Wednesday 19th April, Good Luck.**

We are focusing on Numeracy and Mark Making/Writing this term, changing our role play area weekly to keep interest and encourage the children to count, sort, use pencils, crayons, white boards etc, to make marks and develop their writing skills.

We will, over the six week half term have a Supermarket, a Doctors Surgery, a Post Office, a Hairdressers, a Garage and finally a Garden Centre. Hopefully the weather will have improved and we will be able to walk into Shevington to visit 'real' shops and maybe buy some biscuits for a treat at snack time.

We will set up our Supermarket with 'real' packages, (please save any empty boxes and send them in for the children to play with), we will have real fruit and vegetables, small new potatoes, carrots, shallots, etc. We will be weighing, writing shopping lists, counting pretend money etc.

As the children are always asking for the medical kit, and enjoy playing with the bandages, taking each others temperature and playing nurses, we will set up our very own Doctors Surgery We can put clip boards in the 'surgery' encouraging mark making by asking the children to 'book appointments', record 'telephone' messages and write down what is wrong with the patient.

In our Post Office we will be 'writing' letters and cards, wrapping parcels, (boxes left over from our supermarket), using stamps and ink pads, counting how many stamps we have printed etc. etc.

We will set up the Play Along Hairdressers Salon, where the children can pretend to style one another's hair - have you any old hairdryers, that don't work? Please send them in and we can cut the wire off so that the children can play with them. We will put in a telephone and appointment book to encourage mark making skills, a till to pay and develop counting skills, an i-pad to encourage the children to take pictures so we can record how many children have blonde hair, brown hair, straight, curly, long and short hair. (Don't worry we won't have scissors in the 'Salon', the children won't be coming home with a restyle!)

For the mechanics we will have a Garage, using the computer to complete simple programs, designing cars by dragging and dropping car parts, another to sort spanners in order of length size. Counting the wheels on the toy cars, sorting big, little etc

We thought the last week of the half term we would have a Garden Centre, indoors and outside, weather permitting, making good use of our new outdoor area, planting up tubs, tyres and pots, learning how to look after the plants as they grow. Planting seeds, beans, and plants to make our outside area look bright and colourful.

Ways you can help your child at home:

- Counting using 1-1 correspondence.
- Encourage your child to share and take turns - reinforce counting skills at any opportunity, counting games, toys in the bath, cutlery on the table etc.
- Share books to encourage your child to develop their concentration skill, please feel free to borrow any of our books, we have so many!
- Mark making skills, holding a pencil or crayon correctly
- As always, help your child to develop listening skills, hearing initial letter sounds in words, not letter names, letter sounds.
- Encourage your children to dress/undress independently, so helpful when they start school, PE & putting/ taking off coats can take fore

