

Curriculum Newsletter

CLASS / YEAR GROUP

Reception

Reception Autumn 1

TERM / HALF TERM

Autumn 1

OUR LEARNING THIS HALF TERM

During our **'Me and My World'** topic, the children will develop their understanding of themselves, their families their school and the world around them. They will talk about their own experiences, relationships, feelings and interests, while learning to build friendships, follow routines and become confident and independent members of our school community. Children will explore their senses, the local environment and changes they notice around them, including the signs of autumn and seasonal change. Through stories, discussions, play and practical experiences, they will develop their vocabulary, curiosity and understanding of the world, while building the confidence and skills they need to settle happily into Reception and enjoy learning together.

Communication & Language

Children will develop their communication and language skills by learning and using new vocabulary relating to our key texts, including 'Who are you?' and 'Pumpkin Soup'. They will develop their listening skills and learn to understand why listening is important. They will engage with a range of stories and non-fiction books, developing their understanding by answering questions about what they have heard. Staff will model how children can articulate their ideas, thoughts and experiences using well-formed sentences, building their confidence to communicate clearly with others.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Children will develop their personal, social and emotional skills as they settle into school and become confident members of the class. They will learn to recognise and celebrate what makes them special, talk positively about themselves and their abilities and develop independence with personal care, dressing, toileting and making healthy food choices. Children will learn why we have rules, begin to understand right from wrong and practise making positive choices. They will also explore and name a range of feelings in themselves and others, such as being cross, lonely or worried, and begin to develop strategies for managing their emotions.

Physical Development

Children will develop the physical skills and independence they need to manage the school day successfully. They will practise lining up and queuing, develop their understanding of healthy eating and learn to use a knife, fork and spoon correctly. Children will strengthen the muscles in their hands and develop a comfortable, effective pencil grip to support early writing. They will build their core strength and practise maintaining good posture when sitting at a table or on the floor. Through movement, playdough and creative activities, children will develop coordination, strength and control, learning to combine different movements with increasing ease and fluency and create more detailed models.

Literacy

Children will develop their early reading and writing skills through phonics, stories, rhymes and meaningful writing opportunities. They will learn to recognise individual letters and say the sounds they represent, using this knowledge to support writing their names and initial sounds in words. Children will practise writing their first name independently and begin to form lower-case and capital letters correctly. They will learn and use new vocabulary and develop their ability to orally rehearse sentences before writing, with adults in class supporting through scribing where appropriate. Through these experiences, children will build confidence in communicating their ideas through both spoken and written language.

Mathematics

Children will develop their early mathematical understanding through practical, hands-on experiences and play. They will sort objects by colour, size and shape, talking about why they have sorted in that way. Children will develop their counting skills by counting objects,

Understanding the World

Children will develop their understanding of themselves, their families and the wider community. They will talk about people who are familiar to them and explore how families can be different, including differences in race, culture, beliefs and traditions. Children will



actions and sounds and begin to subitise small quantities of 1, 2 and 3 without counting. They will learn to recognise numerals and understand how each numeral represents a quantity, while exploring how numbers can be made and combined using Numicon, dominoes and everyday objects. Children will also begin to recognise and talk about shapes they see in everyday objects and in their environment.

Expressive Arts & Design

Children will develop their creativity and self-expression through a range of art, music, dance, role play and storytelling experiences. They will explore and use a variety of tools and materials, experimenting with different artistic effects and techniques. Children will make choices about the colours they use and begin to explain why they have chosen them. They will enjoy performing songs and rhymes, moving their bodies in time to music and exploring different ways of expressing themselves. Through role play, puppets and storytelling, children will develop their imagination, confidence and ability to communicate ideas, characters and stories creatively.

learn about a range of occupations and the different roles people have within their community. They will also observe and talk about the changes that happen during autumn, noticing how the weather, trees, plants and natural environment change as the season progresses.

Key Theme / Special Experiences

The key dates this half term include:

Gruffalo Day: Thursday 15th September

MacMillan Coffee Morning: 25th September

Dolly Fest: Thursday 15th October

Pumpkin Fest: Wednesday 21st October

Parent Breakfast: Thursday 22nd October

HOW FAMILIES CAN SUPPORT AT HOME

Families can support by working with children to continue to develop their independence: toileting, undressing and dressing and talking about healthy food choices. Families can also support by encouraging children to take responsibility for their belongings; treating them with respect, remembering to tidy things into the correct place and using them for the correct purpose. The children will also benefit from support around following instructions – this can be practised using games such as 'Simon Says'. Children will receive a home learning task each week which is linked to our learning in school – children will be able to embed their learning by sharing it with a grown up at home and being able to talk about what they know and remember.