

Literacy

We have begun this term sharing the stories 'The Colour Monster' and 'The Colour Monster goes to school.' These books focus on emotions and how to deal with them. We have been introducing our 'Zones of Regulations' which fit really well with these stories. Our 'zones' are a way in which we support children to learn about, understand and begin to explain and manage their own feelings. They are something we link throughout our learning. We will also be supporting the children to develop an understanding of how books are set out and encourage prediction and discussion about the stories and characters.

We will begin to developing our phonic awareness and fine motor skills by encouraging independent mark making within learning areas and encouraging the children to discuss what they have drawn. We will also be working on name writing and the correct formation of letters within them.

You can support them by sharing books regularly. Talk about the beginning, middle and end of stories, characters, actions and feelings and share books regularly – fiction and non-fiction. Also, get them to write their names as often as you can!

Physical Development

Children will develop gross motor skills through exploring moving in a variety of ways. They will be encouraged to work on obstacle courses to work on balance and to move freely to music as we dance. They will be supported to develop fine motor skills with activities in our 'finger gym' such as threading, playdough, and tinker trays. We will work on scissor skills in box modelling area by cutting a variety of materials to create their own models.

We will work on pattern drawings such as zig zags, waves, circles and diagonal lines to help build movements needed to form letters correctly.

Practising some of the patterns mentioned above – with a stick in mud, in shaving foam or paint etc. will help lots. Please also continue to encourage independence to dress/undress, fasten shoes/laces, buttons and zips and to toilet independently.

The Notice Board

Please can we ask:

- That **ALL** items of clothing are clearly named.
- That if your child brings their own snack from home, it is **FRUIT/VEG ONLY**. They need water bottles every day (with water only – no juice please!)
- **Forest school on Wednesday mornings** – please can you bring your child into school wearing warm clothing (it doesn't have to be uniform), appropriate shoes and a coat. As the weather worsens, they will also need to have on wellies and water-proofs

Understanding the World

Exploring the world around us – especially our new school environment and the seasons of Autumn and Winter and changes which occur at these times. Looking at special festivals such as Harvest and Diwali - exploring similarities and differences between the festivals and our own experiences of some of them by learning about music, art and design, stories and food. Learning how to take our own photos to record our work and experiences.

Autumn Term

Reception

Earth and Beyond

Vision - To be a community of confident, creative learners thriving together in a rich, inclusive environment that raises the aspirations of each unique child

Expressive Arts and Design

Role Play in 'The home corner' – using their imaginations and expressing their creativity through storytelling, They will be using a variety of materials to develop their awareness of colour, size, texture, shape, space and position through box modelling, drawing, painting and printing activities.

Maths

The children will begin by matching and sorting objects by colour, size, pattern and shape. We will be talking lots about what is the same and different as we do this.

We will also be comparing amounts of objects in two groups/sets using the language of more/fewer/equal and of size using words like large/small, big/little, short/tall, tallest/shortest. We will create simple repetitive patterns – again with colours, patterns, sizes and shapes but also with sounds and actions.

We will be exploring (in depth) numbers to five – how to represent them in lots of different ways – with objects/pictures and numerals. One more/less than them and counting amounts accurately with 1:1 correspondence.

You can support your child by encouraging them to count everything and anything! Discuss numbers and draw their attention to them in everyday situations e.g. on the bus, car number plates, clocks etc. Also encourage 1:1 counting of objects e.g. plates for dinner, steps, people in a room. Also, by practising numeral formation – 1 to 5.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, the children will be encouraged to use the activities and resources independently to support and promote their decision making and self-initiated learning both inside and out. They will work on turn taking, persistence and adaptability through co-operative and collaborative activities such as role play and group art work. They will be supported to develop an understanding of our school routines and expectations within it.

Communication and Language

The children will work on speaking and listening skills during whole and small group discussion. They will work on lots of Phase 1 listening and attention games during letters and sound sessions and participate in chat mat activities where they will be encouraged to share thoughts, opinions and ideas. **You can support them by continuing some of the Phase 1 games suggested in your welcome booklet.**