

## Literacy

Children continue to travel through their phonic journey and we are so impressed to see the progress they are making already! They have now learned 'satpinmdgock, ck' and will be continuing the rest of phase 2 this half term. This will mean they are able to make attempts to read more two and three letter words. We will be encouraging the children to add initial letters and any other more dominant sounds they hear to label pictures they draw.

Children will also share stories, information texts and rhymes about space, rockets and aliens!

Some of our focus books will be Whatever next! Aliens Love Underpants and Here Come the Aliens! We will support the children to develop an understanding of how books are laid out and encourage prediction and discussion about the stories and characters.

**We hope they are enjoying their Bug Worlds as much as they enjoy sessions in school. Your support and encouragement in their use of this and the phonic books we send each week is invaluable to their continued reading journey. A little practice every day really does go a long way!**

## Physical Development

Children will continue to strengthen gross motor skills through exploring moving in a variety of ways. They will be encouraged to move with developing control during dance sessions and will be challenged to skip, side step and hop on both feet. They will also be trying to move on the spot e.g. bounce, jog, hop, star jump.

Finger muscles will be stretched and strengthened during 'dough gym' where children will be pulling, squashing, twisting and pinching playdough in time with the music.

Pattern drawing practice such as zig zags, waves, circles and diagonal lines will continue to support movements needed to form letters correctly.

**Please continue to encourage independence to dress/undress, fasten shoes/laces, buttons and zips and to toilet independently.**

## The Notice Board

- We are really struggling helping children take care of belongings as many are still un-named. Please, please, could you make sure any clothing they bring in has a name on (even hats, gloves and scarves).
- Save the date: **9<sup>th</sup> December** – we have an exciting surprise on the way!
- Forest school continues but the weather really has changed so we ask you make sure children are layered up to keep warm.
- W/c 14<sup>th</sup> November – Book Fair to be held in school. More TBA later.
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December – INSET – School closed

## Understanding the World

We will continue to explore the world around us by learning about special festivals. This term we have been finding out about Bonfire Night and will be doing lots of discussion about Christmas very soon. We will be investigating Beebots and other technology within school and exploring how they work and can be programmed. We will be using appliances to make food and watching the changes which occur.

# 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*

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children will be supported to build on their understanding of our school routines and expectations within it. Also, they will keep working on social skills of turn taking, sharing and patience to wait for what they want. We continue our work on 'The Zones of Regulation'.

## Maths

We will continue to explore (in depth) numbers to five – how to represent them in lots of different ways – with objects/pictures and numerals. We will also be learning about the composition of numbers to five (the idea that all numbers are made up of smaller numbers). One more/less than them and counting amounts accurately with 1:1 correspondence.

Children will learn about the four basic shapes – circle, triangle, square and rectangle. We will be going on shape hunts and supporting children's understanding of shapes in a variety of sizes and orientations.

**You can support your child by encouraging them to continue to count accurately with 1:1 correspondence. If they are good with objects, a challenge could be to count movements, sounds or number of sleeps to an important event.**

**Also continuing practising numeral formation – 1 to 5. Encourage your children to spot shapes wherever they go. Challenge them to explain to you how they know what shape it is.**

## Expressive Arts and Design

They will be traveling forwards and backwards through time in the 'The time tunnel' – backwards to prehistoric dinosaurs and forwards to life on our new planet!

They will also 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. They will have the opportunity to work in 2D and 3D to make roaring rockets and multi eyed aliens.

We will even be making a collaborative, textured planet.

## Communication and Language

Children continue to work on speaking and listening skills during whole and small group discussion.

They will also be encouraged to talk about and explain what they have been learning using new and extended vocabulary. They will begin to explain 'how' and 'why'.