

Curriculum Information for Parents

Year R – Autumn Term 2 2023

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term we are focussing on developing our sharing and friendships skills and in particular working out how to resolve conflicts and negotiating solutions with help from our teachers. We are also going to be exploring how we stay healthy, including healthy eating and brushing our teeth.

Physical Development

After half term, Year R will start their formal PE lessons in the infant hall every Tuesday. This term's focus is gymnastics (body shapes and balance). We will be continuing to do precise exercises which make our bodies really strong. We will be introducing dough disco sessions throughout the week to develop our fine motor skills.

Communication and Language

The focus in our role play will remain a home corner with extra enhancements. Our small world areas will be created to reflect the children's interests. We will be sharing our interests with our friends through this, extending our vocabulary. Through our key texts we will continue looking at story language and sequencing in detail.

Understanding the World

We will be examining the changes all around us by baking bread and observing the change during the cooking process. In addition to this we will also be looking for changes in our environment as the weather gets colder and seasons change. In our curiosity box, the children will be investigating items from the past. As part of the build up to Christmas we will be learning about the Christmas story and how different cultures celebrate.

Our interests!

Other Information

It is great to see how settled and happy the children are in school. The children are really enjoying their school reading books. After half term, we will introduce the children to our school library. Please make sure that your child brings their book bag, reading book and reading log to school every day as they need them for their phonics lessons and also for us to keep our book count up to date. Our book count allows your child to work towards badges and certificates! Please can you also double check that all items that your child brings to school are still clearly named as we have noticed that some of the names have begun to come off in the wash.

Year R will be having their launch day on **Thursday 2nd November** to celebrate starting their new topic 'Our interests'. On this day, please can children come into school dressed up in something that reflects their interests (for example, as a dinosaur, a baker, or a shirt/jumper with pictures of things they like on them). Launch days are a brilliant, fun way for us to jump into our new topics and is fantastic for the development of communication and language by giving the children an opportunity to be exposed to activities and language they wouldn't normally hear.

Suggestions to help your child at home.....

- Your child will be bringing home books with words in after half term. Go through your child's school reading book every day at home and spot the sounds that we are learning at school.
- Practise recognising our common words. Can you find them in your library books?
- Encourage your child to recognise and write their name with the correct letter formation.
- Read a bedtime story with your child every night and discuss what happened. Try putting on different voices for each character.
- Continue to look at the 'Walk and Talk' board outside the classrooms so that you can discuss your child's learning with them.

Literacy

The children will continue to explore key texts which will include; 'Rosie's walk', 'One snowy night' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. We will be acting out these stories and learning how to re-tell them in the correct sequence using actions to prompt and support us. We will also be encouraging the children to make use of recently introduced vocabulary that we have learnt through these stories. The children will develop their pencil grip and mark making skills and even begin to use the letter shapes which we are learning each week in school!

Maths

The children will identify and further explore early numbers to 5 and will master as many different ways as possible to represent them. This will lead in to discussing one more/less and experiencing this in a wide variety of different ways including counting forwards and backwards. We will then be matching those quantities to number names and numerals. We will also be looking at shapes and position.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children are encouraged to make independent choices about the resources needed and talk about their creations. They will learn how to use a range of shapes, colours, tools and techniques to represent observational drawings. They will collaborate on a class Christmas banner which is an opportunity for the children to show us their colour mixing skills.