

Communication and Language

Throughout this theme the children will be using language skills and verbal communication, both in role-play situations and also when asking questions to find out things. Show and 'Tell' sessions have proved very popular and are important as this will allow children to gain confidence when speaking in front of a familiar group and promote listening to others. The children will be encouraged to develop their vocabulary by listening and responding to stories and modelling new vocabulary throughout the day. The children will be asked to retell stories to find out about different characters and the sequence of a story.

Literacy

Reading is always a key focus and we are encouraging the children to read for pleasure. A library book will be brought home each week for you to share with your child as a special book at home. As the children have done so well learning their sounds last term it's now time to bring some books home. The reading books sent home will be specific to your child's phonics they have learnt, they will blend sounds into words, so that they can read short words made up of known letters. It is always helpful to re-read books to building confidence and fluency. Comprehension is also important so it's great if you can add in questions about the book they are reading. Phonics will be taught systematically, daily and throughout the year in whole class sessions. The children will be shown how to pronounce each sound, blend and begin to read sentences using tricky words. Everything that has been learnt in the week will be reviewed on a Friday.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

As the children enter their second half term and feel more settled they will gently be encouraged to become more independent. Through the tasks and activities available, turn taking and sharing will be promoted. Listening to others, taking turns in conversation as well as good manners in the classroom and lunchtimes will also be a focus. We encourage the children to agree the class rules and routines and to build respectful relationships. We shall reflect on how we manage our emotions and how we can deal with it, regulation being a key focus. Our PSHE lessons will support our work on Celebrating Difference.

Understanding the World

During the topic we will become familiar with some celebrations from different faiths in addition to the Christian celebration of Christmas. The children will be encouraged to talk about what they have done with their families during Christmas' in the past.

In RE we introduce different types of celebrations such as Diwali and Hanukah, and their significance to children in different cultures will enable them to have a better understanding of others beliefs. The children will also have different cultures versions of famous fairy tales. They will be introduced to a range of fictional characters and creatures from stories and begin to differentiate these characters from real people in their lives.

In Reception we start to talk about stranger danger (based on Jack and the beanstalk). The children will be in discussion about different occupations and how to identify strangers that can help them when they are in need.

Reception / Klee and Rothko

Year R: Autumn 2

'Terrific Tales'

During the second half of the term, the children in Reception will be learning through a topic entitled 'Terrific Tales'. This will encourage children to become familiar with a range of books and gain a deeper understanding of texts. Along side this topic we shall also look at Celebrations.

All over the world people enjoy taking part in celebrations. Celebrations enable people to have a good time and demonstrate what is important to them and their culture. This project will help children to have a good understanding of the meaning, characteristics and purpose of celebration.

Physical Development

Fine Motor Activities

The children will begin to show a preference for a dominant hand when writing, drawing or using tools. The adults will engage children in structured activities: guide them in what to draw, write or copy to develop muscle tone to put pencil pressure on paper. Similar to last term a range of tools will be in continuous provision to use. We have daily fine motor activities each morning for all children to access.

Gross Motor Activities

Last term we learnt how to move in different ways and we are now moving on how to build up coordination. In PE we encourage ball skills for throwing and catching games. In our outdoor area loose parts are on offer where it provides a range of wheeled resources for children to balance, sit or ride on, or pull and push. This is along side our two-wheeled balance bikes and pedal bikes without stabilisers, skateboards, wheelbarrows, prams and carts, lots of gross motor skills to build up coordination and balance.

Mathematical Development

As the children become more familiar with numbers we embed a greater depth and understanding before we move on. To really familiarise the children with 0-10 the children will engage in numbers recognition, order, one more or one fewer. Building on number work 0-5 last term lots of practical activities are out in our continuous provision to encourage this. The children then start to explore addition and subtraction within this number range too. The children will also explore measurement by estimating, order and compare and plenty of discussion around weight and length. Building on the children's knowledge of 2D shapes from last term they will look at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and start some sorting activities. We love to sing our days of the week song and we shall move on to sequencing daily events.

Expressive Arts and Design

With our Terrific Tales theme the children will use different textures and materials to make houses for The Three Little Pigs and bridges for the Three Billy Goats Gruff. The use of story maps, props, puppets & story bags will encourage children to retell, invent and adapt stories.

Colourful paintings and decorating cards to celebrate different festivals will be one of many art and craft activities on offer. As the children are getting used to managing tools they will make firework pictures, Christmas decorations, Christmas cards and Divas. In music they have enjoyed singing a range of songs and will now sing Christmas songs and listen to music to make their own dances in response. In our continuous provision area resources are available to them to use in their own art work. No first year at school is complete without a traditional Nativity Service. The Foundation Stage children will take centre stage in this performance at St. Peter's Church on Thursday 2nd December 2021.

Forest School

We are very lucky to have our Forest School area to visit weekly. The children have become familiar with the area and will be starting to build up skills and use new tools. This term we will remind ourselves of the important rules to keep ourselves safe at Forest School and how important it is to use our listening ears. Once these are established we will use the bow saw and hammers and nails under adult supervision. This will encourage creativity whilst building up fine motor skills. We will have the tools out for several weeks to encourage the children to have a go and build up confidence. Amongst this we will have our usual favourites of the mud kitchen, bug hunting, loose parts and the swing where the children will use their gross motor skills. At the end of the session we shall be linking out topic of Terrific Tales by sharing some stories around the camp fire with a hot chocolate.