

Curriculum Information for Parents

Year R – Autumn Term 2 2024

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

Year R have started their formal PE lessons in the infant hall every Friday. This term's focus is gymnastics (body shapes and balance). The children will be continuing to do precise exercises which make our bodies really strong. We will continue to make our hands strong through a variety of fine motor activities such as making and using play dough, using tweezers and peg boards.

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 what the children want to explore. We will be sharing our knowledge with our friends through this, extending our vocabulary and asking questions to find out more. Through our key texts we will continue looking at story language and sequencing in detail.

Understanding the World

We will be examining different artefacts from history and from locations from around the world. In addition to this we will also be looking for changes in our environment as the weather gets colder and seasons change. As part of the build up to Christmas we will be learning about the Christmas story and how different cultures celebrate.

Exploration!

This term we are learning about the concept of exploration and what it means to be an explorer. We will be thinking about the types of places and things that explorers investigate. From this, we will become explorers ourselves by finding out more information about the things that we are interested in (for example, space, dinosaurs and different places around the world!

Other Information

The children are really enjoying their school reading books and we have now introduced your children to the school library. Our library slot will take place every Friday afternoon. Please can you ensure that library books are in their bookbags on this day so that they can return old books and choose new ones. New library books will not be issued until they have returned the books from the previous week.

Please can you also 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.

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

- Your child is now bringing home books with words in. Please continue to read these books with your child and encourage them to sound out and blend the words on each page.
- Practise recognising our common words (a, I, the, is). 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 a range of joyful books and animations through our Drawing club sessions. As the children develop their pencil grip and mark making skills, we will be continuing to learn different letter shapes and use these within our drawing club sessions to write sounds and words. We will be exploring what a story map is and using these to retell stories in the correct sequence through role play, puppets, small world play and art. We will also be encouraging the children to make use of recently introduced vocabulary that we have learnt through these stories.

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.