

EYFS Autumn Term Topic letter

Dear Parents,

Welcome to EYFS! We hope you have had a fantastic summer.

This term our topics are

Nursery - It's Me!

Reception - Earth, Space and me in my Place

Communication and Language

In Communication and Language, we will be developing children's listening, understanding, and speaking skills through a wide range of engaging stories. We will enjoy and discuss books such as *Handa's Surprise*, *The Smeds and the Smoos*, *The Colour Monster*, *Me on the Map*, and *Families, Families, Families*. These stories will encourage children to listen attentively, talk about characters and events, share their own ideas, and ask questions. Through storytelling and related activities, children will build new vocabulary, learn to express themselves with greater confidence, and make connections to their own experiences and the world around them.

PSED

In Nursery, children will be learning to understand their own feelings and those of others. They will practise sharing, taking turns, and following simple routines. Children will also begin to develop confidence in speaking to adults and peers, making choices, and expressing their needs and ideas in a safe and supportive environment.

In Reception, children will focus on building positive relationships and understanding emotions. They will learn to work and play cooperatively, take turns, and resolve small conflicts with support. Children will also begin to develop independence in managing their personal needs and show confidence in expressing their thoughts and feelings in different situations.

Physical Development

In Nursery, children will develop their gross motor skills through activities like climbing, running, jumping, and balancing. They will also begin to explore fine motor skills by handling small tools, drawing, and mark-making, helping to build the strength and coordination needed for early writing and self-care.

In Reception, children will continue to develop both gross and fine motor skills. They will practise controlling their movements in games and outdoor activities, as well as refining hand-eye coordination through activities like using scissors, drawing, and writing. They will also begin to develop independence in managing personal care, such as dressing and using cutlery.

Mathematical Understanding

In Nursery, we will focus on developing early number sense through songs, rhymes, and play. Children will explore counting up to 3 in practical ways, such as through every day routines, games, and stories. They will begin to recognise small numbers, compare groups of objects, and use language such as "more," "less," and "the same." We will also explore shapes, patterns, and simple sorting activities to build strong foundations for early maths.

In Reception, we will build on children's number knowledge by developing accurate counting skills and recognising numbers to 5. Children will practise matching numbers to quantities, comparing groups, and exploring the concepts of addition and subtraction through practical activities and stories. They will also explore shapes, patterns, and simple measuring activities, developing mathematical language to describe what they see. This term's focus will help children gain confidence in using numbers and solving simple problems in everyday contexts.

Literacy

In Nursery, we will be enjoying lots of stories, songs, and rhymes to help children develop a love of books and language. Children will begin to join in with repeated phrases, talk about characters and events, and start to recognise their own name in print. They will also explore mark-making in different ways as an early step into writing.

In Reception, we will focus on developing early reading and writing skills. Children will begin to learn letter sounds through phonics, blend sounds to read simple words, and recognise some tricky words. In writing, they will practise forming letters correctly and start to write their own names, labels, and simple captions linked to their experiences and stories.

Understanding of the World

In Nursery, children will explore the world around them, noticing changes in the seasons, weather, and their environment. They will learn about different people and places, including a first look at Africa, through stories, pictures, and play. Children will also begin to investigate natural materials and show curiosity about how things work.

In Reception, children will develop their knowledge of the world by learning about different countries and cultures, including Africa. They will explore similarities and differences between themselves and others, investigate the natural environment, and observe changes in plants, animals, and the seasons. Children will also use simple tools and technology to explore and record their findings.

Expressive Art and Design

In Nursery, children will explore a variety of materials and textures to create art and express their ideas. They will enjoy painting, drawing, and collage, experimenting with colours and shapes. Children will also begin to use their imagination in role play and small-world activities to bring their ideas to life.

In Reception, children will develop their creativity by exploring different materials, techniques, and tools in art and design. They will experiment with colour, texture, and shape to create their own pictures and models. Children will also use their imagination in role play and collaborative projects, expressing ideas inspired by stories, experiences, and the world around them.

Homework

Reading

Reading diaries will be checked regularly and it is the expectation that your child reads daily and then is recorded in their reading diary.

Nursery

You will be given a book to share with your child at home please discuss pictures with your child to support the development of your child's vocabulary.

Reception

First you will have a book to share with your child. After that children will begin to bring home phonetically decodable books. Additionally, they will be given flash cards linked to our phonics and words for their next book.

General Reminders

The children will need their own water bottle to keep in class which they can have access to throughout the day. Please ensure your child's name is clearly written on their water bottle.

Reception: Children may bring a piece of fruit for snack time. (We do however offer them fruit daily).

Please make sure children have spare clothing in school and it is the expectation that no jewellery is worn and we have continued provision.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to a great year ahead!

EYFS TEAM