

Mathematics

This half term we will be consolidating and developing our basic skills in counting through a range of activities. We will be looking at finger number rhymes such as '1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive' and '5 Little Ducks' and using them to support us in the vocabulary of number and putting numbers in order. We will compare numbers using the vocabulary, more, lots and the same.

We will use a variety of equipment to construct imaginatively developing our awareness of shapes in the environment, looking at the shapes used and recognising their faces. We will get out the pattern box and look at and describe patterns in our environment for example on socks, coats, the drain cover etc.

We will compare amounts such as height, length, weight and capacity through our exploratory play.

Personal, Social, and Emotional Development

Whether we are continuing our journey in Nursery, or are a new nursery starter this term, we have lots of new faces we need to get to know. This half term we will be focusing on building relationships with our friends and the teachers that we work with. We will develop confidence with basic routines around the nursery such as lining up, making a circle, listening carefully and following instructions and tidying up when we hear the bells. We will learn to express our wants and needs to help the staff support us. We will develop independence in our personal hygiene and self care skills such as using the toilet by ourselves, washing hands effectively and helping with our clothes and putting on coats.

Communication and Language

Communication is an extremely important part of a child's early development. The ability to communicate their needs to those around them is vital. Children will be encouraged to share their ideas with each other, one to one and in small groups and develop their spoken language through learning key vocabulary. We will practise following instructions and listening to information carefully to help develop the listening skills needed to help our learning.

We will learn some basic Makaton sign language, which will be an additional way to communicate with each other. We will initially develop the signs for greetings and manners at snack time.

We will develop understanding of the questions, who, what, when, where and use these to explain what is happening especially when sharing stories together. We will use our verbal skills to build games around toys and develop imaginative language

Literacy

In our literacy sessions this term we will focus on the a range of basic listening skills that are pre-requisite to learning phonics sounds. These skills include listening carefully to sounds in our environment and the sounds that instruments make, listening to the rhythm of words, listening for rhymes and noticing alliteration, hearing the initial sounds in words and blending together the sounds we can hear in words.

We will enjoy sharing a variety of stories together, talking about the characters, settings and what happens in the story. We will also learn/consolidate a new nursery rhyme each week during rhyme time. In our writing we will practise giving meaning to the marks that we make and access writing opportunities across the curriculum.

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HOME LEARNING

To help us build on the children's learning inside the classroom, there are a few activities they may wish to complete. These activities are based on different areas covered in Nursery.

To bring the topics being studied to life, we have three ideas of activities you and your child may enjoy doing at home.

- Make a model of your house using recycled materials. What will you use? Can you talk about any of the shapes you can see on your model? Could you paint it?
- Can you draw a picture of you and your new friends? Can you tell your grown up about your picture and talk about how you are different to your friends? Do you have different hair/skin/eye colours? Are you taller or shorter?
- Make a poster about Autumn and the changes that take place at this time of year. Maybe you could include pictures of yourself experiencing these changes e.g. crunching in the leaves, collecting conkers etc? Make a collage?

While we will not hold a homework showcase for parents, we do intend to celebrate projects with other children in school. With this in mind, could projects be completed by Monday 29th November.

Physical Development

During our daily physical sessions the children will practise moving freely, with pleasure and confidence in a range of ways, moving with developing spatial awareness. They will develop control of a ball and other equipment. They will develop fine motor control through a variety of activities such as cutting, threading, manipulating objects, using tweezers, pipettes and other one handed tools. These activities will support comfortable and strong pencil grips needed for early writing and mark making skills. The children will learn that equipment and tools need to be used safely and use resources appropriately.

Children will learn the importance of healthy routines with regard to their own toileting and how they should wash their hands effectively.

Understanding the World

We will look at our families and the people around us. We will compare our families to other people's families. How are we the same and different from our friends? We will celebrate our differences and develop positive attitudes towards people who may have a different religion, gender, disability, skin colour, customs to ourselves.

We will explore natural phenomena such as the weather, splash in puddles, look at the changes in seasons, collect leaves etc. Outside, we will investigate different textures and look at natural and manmade materials with different properties.

Expressive Arts & Design

The children will spend lots of time in nursery singing rhymes. We use rhymes as a tool to learn routines and key information from their learning. We enjoy singing together and playing instruments, listening carefully to the sounds they make, learning when to stop and start and develop control over an instrument. Children will explore paint and a variety of other media using their fingers and other body parts noticing the marks they leave behind. They will use their imagination as they consider what they can do with different materials and make simple models which express their ideas. In the home corner and during small world play, they will start to develop pretend play, pretending that one object represents another. For example, holding a wooden block to their ear and using it as a telephone.

LEARNING SKILLS

This term we will be focusing on using songs and rhymes to develop our auditory memory skills and using the language of time to order our ideas.