



1st Half Spring Term 2022

Early Years

Area of Development	This half term our topic is <u>'Fantasy'</u>
Communication, Language, Reading and Writing	<p>Each week the children will be taking part in activities associated with 'Fantasy'. We will be reading books associated with the fantasy topic. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zog • Superheroes • Time Traveller • The Mr Men/Little Miss • Pirate Stories • Go Jetter • Barry the Fish with Fingers <p>We are continuing with the daily phonics activities. The children will develop their speaking, listening and memory skills. The children will take part in lots of writing and mark making activities associated with our topic. If your child does any writing at home, please bring it in as we would love to see it or pop a picture on Tapestry.</p>
Mathematics	<p>Each week, the children will take part in lots of activities involving number recognition, counting, problem solving, shape and space activities and numeral recognition. The activities will be linked to our weekly topics. For example, making repeated patterns and naming shapes in the Mr Men, counting Zog's golden stars, recognising numbers, shadow matching and grouping/sorting by colour, size, number, weight.</p>
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<p>We continuously encourage the children to develop independence and key skills to help them throughout the rest of their school journey by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forming friendships with children • Sharing toys • Manners (saying please and thank you) • Managing feelings and behaviour • Listening to children and adults • Developing the confidence to talk in front of others • Self-confident and self-aware • Washing hands • Getting dressed and undressed independently • Tidying up
Understanding the World	<p>Our stories topic will enable the children to-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about our bodies and teeth and begin to develop knowledge and skills to know how to look after them • Develop an awareness of time and significant past events beyond their living memory • Enjoys playing with small-world models • Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world. • Talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects. • Talk about why things happen and how things work. • Developing an understanding of growth, decay, and changes over time. • Shows care and concern for living things and the environment. • Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns, and change <p>Complete ICT programmes using iPads, cameras, computers, and bee-bots.</p>
Expressive Arts and Design	<p>The children will sing songs and have the opportunity to compose pieces of music with instruments related to our topic. They will have the opportunity to be imaginative, play cooperatively, and use role-play props to act out narratives. Paints, pastels, crayons, and other mark making materials and art equipment will be available every day for the children to use.</p>
Physical Development	<p>The children will use the following pieces of equipment to develop their fine motor and gross motor skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play dough and other malleable materials • Baking • Scissors and glue • Mark making materials • Play various playground games.

- Climbing Frame and tunnels.
- Scooters and bikes
- Obstacle courses
- Bats and balls
- Hoops and beanbags
- Wooden and plastic blocks

The children will also learn about self-care:

- Washing their hands regularly and how germs are spread
- Learn to use tissues- catch it, kill it, bin it
- Using the toilet with increasing independence
- Getting dressed and undressed independently

In line with current Covid 19 guidance, all Indoor and outdoor equipment is cleaned and rotated regularly.

Outdoor Play

As the weather is very cold and wet, we would like to remind parents/carers to ensure children bring appropriate clothing to school for outdoor play. Wellies, coats, hats should all have names in them. It is a very good idea to send a spare set of clothes in for your child in case they get wet or dirty.

Water bottles

Please provide a bottle with plain tap water for your child to access whenever needed throughout their nursery session.

Home Learning & Tapestry

All home learning will be sent out via email on a Friday. Please submit all home learning via the Tapestry app by the following Thursday at the very latest. If you have trouble accessing Tapestry, please speak to a member of staff. It's important that all parents have access to this wonderful app.

School uniform

Please ensure your child wears the correct uniform which is clearly labelled with your child's name. Children must wear a clip on (not elasticated) tie, a shirt with pointed collars, a school jumper or cardigan with the logo on, grey trousers/skirt/pinafore and plain black school shoes.

Toys, scooters & bikes

Toys and teddies must not be brought into school. Please can we also remind you that in the interests of safety, if your child comes to school on a bicycle, scooter, or any other child's vehicle they must dismount the item when they arrive at the gate and lock it in the cycle store (located on the main school playground). Please be aware that the main school gates will be locked and won't re-open until 3:25pm. Alternatively, scooters and bikes can be handed to the parent/carers to take home for safe keeping. Unfortunately, we are unable to store scooters and bikes in our nursery playground for safety reasons. Thank you.

Bags of support

We have several bags of support to offer parents if needed. Some of the topics include bereavement, divorce, going into hospital, toileting, and fine motor skills. If you would like to borrow a bag or would like to enquire about a topic, please speak to a member of staff.

Early Years Fund

Thank you for your weekly 50p donations. They really do make a difference! Last term, we were able to buy lots of lovely new resources to enhance our continuous provision. We bought dressing-up costumes, resources for our role play area, art/craft materials and ingredients to make play-doh. We are continuing to ask Early Years parents for a contribution of 50p per week. There is an envelope on the Nursery classroom door and a class list. Please tick your child's name off when you have donated the 50p.

Important dates for your diary:

Tuesday 4 th January 2022	School opens for Spring Term 1
WB 17 th January 2022	Parent Consultation Evenings
Wednesday 16 th February 2022	Reception Themed Dinner: Fantasy
Friday 18 th February 2022	3.30pm, School closes for Half Term

Should you have any questions or concerns about the details above, or any other matters, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Here's hoping for an exciting and productive term!

Early Years Team

