



Spring 2nd Half Term 2024

Early Years

We are looking forward to a fun filled term full of opportunities to reach high and grow together.

Area of Development	This half term our topic is <u>'Under the sea'</u>
Communication, Language, Reading and Writing	<p>Each week, the children in Early Years will be taking part in activities associated with the topic of 'Under the sea'.</p> <p>We will be looking at the following topics and stories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The big book of the blue. • Commotion in the ocean. • Somebody swallowed Stanley. • Harry saves the ocean. • The snail and the whale. • Science Week • Easter <p>The children will take part in daily phonics sessions in small groups. They will develop their speaking, listening, concentration and memory skills through playing games and taking part in activities. Please remember to share any mark making, drawings or writing your child does at home by popping a photo on to Tapestry. We'd love to see what they have been getting busy with at home.</p>
Mathematics	<p>The children will take part in lots of number activities involving counting objects carefully, number recognition, ordering numbers, problem solving and shape and space activities. Children will also use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, and positions. We will continue consolidating the children's number recognition with Ten Town on the interactive whiteboard. The activities will be linked to our stories. For example, counting sea animals, sorting creatures according to size and shape, and recognising numbers.</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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forming friendships with others • Sharing toys • Taking turns • Manners (saying please and thank you) • Managing feelings and behaviour • Listening to children and adults • Developing the confidence to talk in front of others. • Washing hands • Using the toilet with increasing independence • Getting dressed and undressed independently. • Developing self-confidence and self-awareness • Developing resilience and a 'can do attitude'
Understanding the World	<p>Our topics will enable the children to-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Taking increased notice of the change of seasons, • 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. • Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change • Complete ICT programmes using iPads, cameras, computers and bee-bots. • Thinking and talking about our world and environment and how to take care of it
Expressive Arts and Design	<p>The children will sing songs and have the opportunity to compose pieces of music with instruments related to our topics, be imaginative, play cooperatively to develop and 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</p>

	<p>motor skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play dough and other malleable materials • Jigsaws, threading, finger gym activities • 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 <p>The children will also learn about self-care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Water safety
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Water bottles

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

Outdoor Play

As it's Spring we can expect all sorts of different weather conditions! We would like to remind parents/carers to ensure children bring appropriate clothing to school for outdoor play. All clothing must be named.

It is a good idea to send a spare set of clothes in for your child in case they get wet or dirty. We do have some spare clothes, but our supply is extremely low! If you have any old clothes which your child has grown out of, we would be very grateful for trousers, tops, wellies, pants or socks. Thank you!

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.

There is also a range of good quality pre-loved items of school uniform available from the school office if you need to stock up on extra bits.

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/carer 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 resource bags available in Early Years to help support families at home. These are for: bereavement, divorce/separation, potty training, new baby, sleep routines, healthy eating, fine motor skills development, staying in hospital, behaviour.

Early Years Fund

Thank you for your weekly 50p donations. They really do make a difference. 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: -

Monday 26th February 2024

School opens for Spring Term 2

Wednesday 6th March

Westview Project Visit – information to follow

Thursday 7nd March 2024

World Book Day

WB Monday 11th March 2024

National Science and Engineering Week

Monday 11th March 2024

AM/BOW & Reception visit to Guisborough Woods

Thursday 11th March 2024

PM/EOW visit to Guisborough Woods

Friday 15th March 2024

Charity Day

Monday 25th March 2024

Easter Competition and Collection

Thursday 28th March 2024

3.30pm, School closes for Easter Holiday

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!

The Early Years Team