

Literacy

This term, our Literacy lessons will focus on learning more about ourselves. We will be discussing how we feel as we read stories such as **The Everywhere Bear**. We will be exploring friendships and being kind through the story, **Hello, friend!** We will be talking about our families and how they differ from one another when we read **A new house for mouse**. Finally, we will read **Emergency** to help us learn more about people who help us and different jobs. We will be learning how to form some of our letters this term and developing our writing skills through writing our name and short, three-letter words. You may wish to practise name writing and letter formation at home to best support your child's learning.



Maths

Whilst we are settling into school, the children will join in with lots of different counting songs to help them to develop their familiarity with numbers. The children will be introduced to lots of different maths resources available in the classroom and how these can be used within their play.

Our first maths unit of work is 'Match, Sort and Compare' where we will learn about the concept of matching and sorting using physical objects. The children will also explore sorting different objects before coming up with rules about how objects can be sorted in different ways. Later on in the term we will explore, copy and create simple patterns. At home you point out where patterns can be seen in the environment. This could be patterns on clothes, such as checks or stripes, or a pattern involving sound.



Phonics

Whilst we are setting in, we will be completing Phase 1 phonics. This is all about listening to sounds. We will also be practising our oral blending skills. This is where an adult will sound out a word and the children will blend it together. For example "Go and find your c-oa-t" You may find it useful to practise this at home. We will also learn about rhyming sounds and identifying familiar sounds, e.g. animal noises and musical instruments.

Once the children are full time, they will take part in daily Phase 2 phonics lessons where they will begin to learn the single sounds that letters make and they will also be introduced to tricky words (words we cannot sound out). Please ensure you are practising these **daily** using the yellow sound book, to ensure your child keeps up with the fast-paced nature of these sessions. We will also communicate via Tapestry with you about our sounds of the week.



Communication and Language

This term we will be learning about listening. We will learn about what makes a good listener and how we can listen to others. We will be going on listening walks around the school to see what we can hear and practise tuning into the sounds that we can hear.

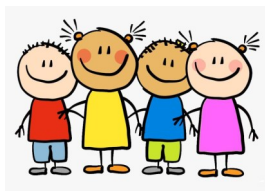
We will be learning how we need to sit on the carpet for good listening and how to respond to the classroom bells which mean we need to 'stop and listen'. All of these listening skills will help us to be ready to learn as we will develop the skills needed to take part in small, adult-led discussions which will help us to develop our speaking skills.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term is all about making friends and settling into school. We will be learning about the rules and expectations in school as well as learning about how we should behave in the classroom, such as being kind to others and respecting our environment. We will be learning about the school day routines and getting used to the big change that all of the Reception class are experiencing.

We will be learning about friendships, including making friends, what makes a good friend and how to share things effectively. We will also be discussing how our actions make others feel and how we can be good friends to the children in the class.



Physical Development

Gross Motor Skills: Our PE lessons will focus on developing our gross motor skills this term. We will be learning how to run, skip, hop and jump effectively as well as balancing to develop our stability and control. We will also have activities in our outdoor environment such as using the climbing frame to develop the larger muscles in our arms which will help support our fine motor skills later in the year.



Fine Motor Skills: This term we will be beginning to learn how to write, starting with pre-writing shapes before moving on to letter formation. It is therefore vital that we begin to develop our fine motor skills. The Funky Fingers area in our classroom will be set up with all sorts of exciting activities, from jigsaw puzzles, to threading and sorting using tweezers.



Understanding the World

Our topic this term is We are all Unique. As part of our settling into school, we will complete activities focused on 'all about me', to help us all get to know each other!

We will be learning about our families and the people around us and having discussions about what is special to each of us.

Towards the end of the half term, we will learn about people who help us. During these weeks, we will discover different occupations and we will hopefully be able to have some special visitors this term and throughout the year.



Expressive Arts and Design

Art: This half term, we will be learn about collage. During this, we will tear paper, make colour selections and practise sticking. We will look at artwork from artists such as Henri Matisse and Ted Harrison. We will then have the chance to make our own collage artwork. We also have access to the creative workshop where we can explore a range of media as well as the painting area to further develop our creativity.



Music: We are looking forward to welcoming our new music teacher to our school. More details about this area of the curriculum will follow in due course.

