

Personal Social and Emotional Development

Your child's first term at school is a particularly special and exciting one. To complement this new chapter in their lives and to promote their personal, social and emotional development we will be reading stories about new experiences, learning class rules and routines, sharing stories about ourselves, learning about our feelings and learning how to keep ourselves safe and healthy. Lots of focus will be on new beginnings as well as our school values.

Characteristics of Effective Learning

Playing and Exploring – children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'.

Active Learning – children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements.

Creating and Thinking critically – children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

Communication and Language

This area of learning supports the development of the skills needed to talk confidently in a range of situations and provides opportunities to learn and use new vocabulary. During our topic we will explore vocabulary to do with ourselves, our families, our senses and where we live. We will share our likes and dislikes and talk about our similarities and differences. We will explore new vocabulary through stories and we will develop our communication and confidence to talk to our peers within our home corner role play area.

Autumn 1

During this half term our topic is all about 'Ourselves'. These activities will provide the children with opportunities to explore the topic and develop their skills over the 7 areas of learning and development.

Expressive Arts and Design

This term the children are presented with opportunities to experiment with different media, resources and activities that inspire their creativity. We will develop our art skills through self-portraits, painting our families, mixing colours, making textured boards and collage art of natural finds. Our imagination will be inspired through role play areas, small world activities, mask making and movement to music.

Physical Development

This area of learning allows children to develop and practise the control they have over their own bodies. This term we will encourage children's confidence and skill in large gross motor movements such as running, jumping, hopping and skipping and we will help children develop their spatial awareness and coordination. We will also enhance children's fine motor skills through the use of one-handed tools and equipment e.g. digging tools, paint brushes, scissors and mark-making and writing tools.

Ourselves



Understanding the World

To complement our topic of "Ourselves", we will be exploring our new classroom and outdoor environment, learning about our bodies, senses and how we are all different, unique and what makes us special. We will also talk about our similarities and differences, our likes and dislikes and our families. We will discuss where we live, our community and people that help us.

Literacy

In Phonics this term we focus on general sound discrimination, environmental and instrumental sounds, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration and voice sounds and oral blending and segmenting.

We will learn how to write and recognise our names as well as family members. We will develop simple reading skills using picture cues and we will label simple drawings. After reading stories together, we will talk about the sequence of the story and retell key events. We will also explore non-fiction texts about ourselves and people who help us.

Mathematics

This term we will inspire the children to develop an enjoyment and passion for the subject. We will focus on numbers of personal significance and counting and recognising numbers up to 10. We will explore different ways of representing numbers and learn that anything can be counted and learn to spot numbers in the environment. Our focus will be on counting and that numbers identify how many objects are in a set. We will develop children's interest in shapes in the environment and look at shape and number road signs. We will develop the language used for everyday shapes around us.

