



New Beginnings

EYFS – Spring 1 2023-2024

FOCUS CURRICULUM PRINCIPLES -

Coherent learning links and pathways

Promotes independence and curiosity



OVERVIEW

In the days leading up to our Christmas holiday, the children received a zoom call from Mrs Gates who was on her holiday in Australia!! It was magnificent to get to see a snapshot of the area she was staying in and to see some of the birds and flowers near to her. She sent many pictures of native animals who were too shy to appear in the zoom call but this unique experience has inspired our first topic of the new half term. We will be using books, photos and artefacts to explore 2 contrasting environments on our planet, Australia and Antarctica. During our topic we will consider our own beautiful Island and the landscape and wildlife that we enjoy. We will also be thinking on a local and global scale of the importance of protecting our beautiful Earth and the difference we can all make to conservation.

Crafts and making things continue to be popular themes with the children so we will ensure plenty of opportunities for art and DT projects too. This half term also provides us with the lovely opportunity to explore Chinese New Year which will be a fabulous opportunity to make decorations and related art work whilst also celebrating the similarities and differences between traditions.

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

THE POWER OF TALK AND CONVERSATION.

Using stories and circle time to listen to others and explain our ideas.

Beginning to use more complex sentences through our talk. Building up vocabulary that links to our experiences and use language to recreate roles in our play.

Develop understanding of questions.

LITERACY

To listen and join in with stories and poems. Develop a love of reading and interest in books as sources of information/enjoyment. Answer and ask questions about what is read. Applying our growing bank of phonic sounds by developing skills of segmenting (for spelling CVC words) and blending (for reading). To recognise some tricky words from sight. Begin to understand features of sentences we see / read. To recognise the initial and end sounds in words.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Understanding and celebrating the uniqueness of each other. Respecting difference.

Making observations of the changing seasons and features of our local environment.

Sharing news of family traditions and customs.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Continuing to Develop gross motor skills and upper body strength and the coordination of large and small movements. Building towards strong and accurate pencil grip (triangulation).

Good hygiene - ongoing. To explore the importance of good diet and exercise for healthy bodies and lifestyles.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Develop confidence to try new things and to select resources with independence.

We will be extending our work on friendships to delve deeper into how our words and behavior impacts upon those around us and how to solve minor disagreements with growing independence.

Extending conversation to support relationships.

MATHS

Investigating numbers to 10. Understanding the value, order and meaning behind the digit. Where do we see these numbers in real life? How are they used? How are values represented in different ways? Number composition.

Subitising number.

Exploring shapes around us.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

Exploring music, dance and instruments - linked to Chinese New Year.

Expressing our ideas through art, colour manipulation, different materials and construction.

Use imaginative play to develop stories and narratives.

KEY DATES

Mondays and Fridays - our PE days.

Tuesday mornings - Forest School. Please ensure your child has wellies and NAMED waterproof clothing.

Thursday 4th January - swimming lessons begin. Pick up directly from WW Sports Centre between 2:45 and 2:55. All children will need swim wear and a towel in a named bag each week.

Monday 29th January - Share afternoon in class 1:40 - 2:40. All parents welcome to come and share work with your child and help them with a DT project.

Thursday 1st February - Village walk - please let us know if you can help. 9:15 - 11:00 ish.

VALUES/RE

Value - Determination

RE - Special Clothes

HOMETASK

Phonics - weekly sounds will continue to come home each week. Please continue to use these sound sheets with past sheets to play games and practice sounds and letters.

Reading - please initial in the reading records when you have been able to read at home. We can't emphasize enough what a difference regular home reading makes to your child's progress!!

Number - Please continue to explore numbers in your day to day occurrences with children e.g. when you are out on walks or at the shops.

Board games and jigsaw puzzles are incredible resources for developing practical mathematical skills.