



Exploring nature

EYFS - Summer 1 2023 2024

FOCUS CURRICULUM PRINCIPLES -

Broad, relevant and balanced - Local, Mainland, Global

Opportunities for memorable experiences



OVERVIEW

We are hoping that brighter and warmer weather is just around the corner as we start our Summer 1 half term. When we asked the children what they would like to learn about this half term, growing, minibeasts and animals were key themes to arise. The children were keen to grow some crops, including strawberries, carrots and lettuce so we will get these crops underway early in the half term. We will also be using our observation skills to explore and learn about wildlife and minibeasts around us including tadpoles and snails and our work on snails will lead very well to an artist study on Matisse.

We hope to get the children out and about around the village in coming weeks so we can explore the nature and wildlife outside the school gates. Also, on our last walk to The Heritage Centre, the children smelt the very welcoming smells from the fish and chip shop and have asked if, at some point, we can enjoy a fish and chip picnic - watch this space for more updates on this!

As always, even with the best laid plans, the children may take our learning in many different directions, so we look forward to our next learning adventures with the children this half term. Whatever the direction, we will be linking our learning themes to many high quality story and information texts and working to develop children's love of reading and engagement with books.

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

THE POWER OF TALK AND CONVERSATION.

Using stories and circle time to listen to others and explain our ideas. Becoming more aware of a listener's needs and the serve and return nature of conversation.

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 and narrate our ideas.

Develop understanding of questions.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Continuing to Develop gross motor skills and upper body strength and the coordination of large and small movements. To continue to work on fine motor skills - hand strength and dexterity. Working towards triangular pencil grip and efficient scissor grip for control with writing and cutting. Handwriting skills.

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. Developing awareness of flexible thinking and applying to our own through processes. Taking on new challenges with growing independence and determination and growth mindset for exercising our brain as a muscle.

We will be extending our work on friendships to delve deeper into how our words and behavior impacts upon those around us. Embedding conscious community and school values into our everyday behavior and choices.

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 phonics by developing skills of segmenting (for spelling CVC, CCVC words and words with double letters) and blending (for reading). To spot words within words and chunking technique to write longer words. Correct letter formation.

Applying phonics to write in sentences and longer pieces. To recognise some tricky words from sight and use in own writing.

MATHS

Consolidating numbers to 10 and beyond whilst expanding our awareness of numbers to 20 for counting. 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? Correct number formation. Making equal groups and comparison.

Subitising number and partitioning into groups.

Solving simple calculations.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Understanding and celebrating the uniqueness of each other. Respecting difference. Traditional customs - Saint George's day.

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

Sharing news of family traditions and customs.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

Exploring- showing control when playing instruments and singing familiar songs - writing and performing own verses for familiar songs.

Expressing our ideas through art, colour manipulation, different materials and construction. Artist focus: Matisse.

Use imaginative play to develop stories and narratives.

KEY DATES

Monday and Friday - PE days.

Tuesday mornings - Forest School.

Thursday 16th May - wildlife walk in village and fish / chip picnic.

Future dates -

Wednesday 12th June - mainland trip to Beaulieu Motor Museum. Details to follow midway through half term.

VALUES/RE

Value - Determination

RE Special (people/events).

HOMETASK

Reading - please initial in the reading records when you have been able to read at home. We cannot express enough what a difference regular reading will make to your child's success at school. Reading underpins learning across all areas of the curriculum so please take opportunities to read school books and/or story books you have at home.

We will be sending home some growing challenges for the children - with a friendly competition of who can grow the tallest and biggest runner beans and sunflowers. Please send photo updates to share with the class via dojo.