



Newsletter for Reception Class Autumn Term 2016



Topics: 1st half term – Me and my Family 2nd half term – Autumn/Winter

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The main priority is to ensure that each child settles well into the routine of school and has a positive approach to new experiences. We will be teaching the boundaries and expectations for behaviour within the class. Every child will be encouraged to look after their own belongings and those of others. We will discuss feelings and how to express feelings appropriately.

How you can help at home:

Talk about how you are feeling and what you do when you are angry to calm down (e.g. count to ten).



Understanding the world

The children will look at how they use their senses to explore the world. We will be looking at how the children have changed since they were babies. We will also be talking about weather and the four seasons of the year.

The children will be investigating construction materials and learning different ways to join things together. We will be using a range of software and interaction games on the internet to develop the children's ICT skills.

How you can help at home:

Encourage your child to use his/her senses to explore everyday objects and then ask them to describe what they have found.



Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be making marks using different media. The children will print with a variety of objects and experiment with collage. We will be learning to sing a range of songs and looking at different instruments. The children will get the opportunity to express moods and feelings through movement.

How you can help at home:

Play a range of music and enjoy the sounds. When listening to music talk about how the music makes you feel. Talk to your child about art work you see around home and while out and about – the use of colour to invoke different feelings, recognising shapes they know and looking closely at a picture, an object or a scene. The more you talk to your children and involve them in discussions, the greater their vocabulary and experiences will be, which they can bring into the classroom to share with other children.

Homework

Each week your child will bring home reading books. The books your child brings home will include a story from the Oxford Reading Tree scheme and a book that your child has chosen themselves. Please share these books with your child every day and write a comment in the accompanying Reading Record book. Please keep it in your child's book bag so it can be changed when necessary.

The children may be asked to do some 'writing' or number work including adding or subtraction. Homework will consist of letter and number formation as well as practising writing their names. Homework will be given once a week. Look out for it in your child's book bag.



Communication and Language/Literacy

We will be developing confidence in speaking and listening. We will be reading many stories and singing songs and rhymes to encourage the children to enjoy language. We will be exploring rhyme and making rhyming strings e.g. cat, mat, pat. The children will learn to recognise their own name in print. We will also be encouraging the children to develop the correct writing grip and hand control and to develop left to right orientation. We expect the children to use writing in their play and want to write spontaneously. We will be learning to read the key Reception words and recognise the different sounds letters make.

How you can help at home:

Share and talk about stories and rhymes with your child.



Physical Development

We will be helping the children understand basic hygiene. We will be moving in different ways encouraging the children to increase control of movements and coordination of different parts of the body. We will be helping the children to develop an awareness of space and to show consideration for others in the use of space.

How you can help at home:

Make sure your child knows the routine for washing hands after visiting the toilet or before eating. Your child is now ready to start doing more activities where they use both hands together – helping to tidy up, cutting up food, tying laces, washing up and putting things in a shopping trolley as well as throwing and catching.



Mathematics



We will be using some number names and practising counting objects. The children will be singing number rhymes and songs. The children will be taught to recognise the numbers to 10 initially & then to 20 and to know which number comes before or after another number. We will be looking at addition and adding two numbers together. The children will be exploring weight and size and focusing on basic 2D and 3D shapes.

How you can help at home:

Count everyday objects with your child. Search for and count out packets and other objects from the shelves when out shopping with you. Recognising numbers around the home and when out of the home– house numbers, page numbers, numbers on the cooker, in the shops. Talking to and involving your child; explaining what you are doing whenever you measure things, weigh things, use numbers.