





Summer Term Curriculum Overview

The following curriculum overview information applies to the whole of the final term of the Reception year, from Easter to the summer holidays.

Subject	Activities	Links at home
Personal, Social and Emotional Development 	<p>We focus a lot on positive relationships with not just our friends, but our peers and the different adults around the school; this aids our work around transition as the children prepare to move up to Year 1. Transition also includes work on following new rules and routines, such as attending break-time and working in a larger class. We are going to talk about naming feelings and thinking of strategies to overcome trickier emotions.</p>	<p>Your child may have questions about Year 1, and may be feeling a little anxious or worried about what to expect. Rest assured that we are working on these feelings in school, but you can support them by reminding them how many exciting opportunities they will have with their friends; new things can be really exciting!</p>
Communication and Language 	<p>The children have worked on their listening and attention skills have improved very much over the last year; the focus of this term is increasing the length of time that the children concentrate on tasks and learning sessions ready for extended learning in Year 1. Our topics of Minibeasts and Animals will help us to develop new vocabulary and concepts such as descriptive language. Speaking with peers in role play and talking within play will be hugely encouraged!</p>	<p>Point out different plants, animals and objects in the environment and name them with your child to extend their vocabulary. Encourage as much conversation as you can - dinnertime is a lovely time to get everyone talking and listening together, taking turns to speak! This will help them develop patience and understanding of the to-and-fro of conversations.</p>
Physical Development 	<p>The children have worked very hard to develop their fine motor skills for fiddly tasks and for writing; this term, we are going to enhance the early letter and number writing they have been doing with lots of practise on handwriting. In PE, the class will be having outdoor sessions with games themed around teamwork and gross motor skills, as well as balancing and moving.</p>	<p>Excellent handwriting develops from lots of practise, but this doesn't necessarily have to be adult-led or sheet work; using paintbrushes to trace letters and shapes in water, sand or paint is a great way to develop coordination and so is tracing using different colours and pens.</p>
Literacy, including phonics 	<p>Having developed the skills of blending and segmenting, we are now diving in to Set 3 in our RWI phonics lessons; this is a set of alternative spellings for common digraphs and trigraphs, so your child will be introduced to spelling patterns which they haven't used before. The summer term is really important for stamina and increasing length of writing, so we will be looking at writing more than one sentence, as well as introducing the capital letter and recapping the full stop. It's a very busy term for Literacy in the run up to the summer, but we will cover plenty of wonderful stories!</p>	<p>Please practise your spelling elephants every week; the most up-to-date one will be sent out by the end of the second week back, and these are really important for accelerating their writing skills. If possible, try to embed meaningful writing into opportunities at home, like writing a shopping list or writing a new recipe. Any and all reading makes a huge difference – do encourage them to read to you, they should be ready to by now if they are reticent!</p>
Maths	<p>We will spend the third term really enhancing the foundations we have built with numbers from 1-20; children will be</p>	<p>Your child may be very confident with the numeral recognition up to 20, so don't hesitate to point out</p>

<p>Counting and ordering numbers 1-20 3D shapes and measures Addition and subtraction Doubling and halving</p> 	<p>taught how to recognise them, order them and count backwards through them. This will all help when we return to addition and subtraction, namely counting on and counting back to find the answer instead of just using practical items. Nearer the very end of the summer term, the children will learn how to double and halve numbers up to 10; this is a tricky skill, so we will use items and pictures to help recall the answers. We will extend our knowledge of measures by using weights, heights and capacity tools to find out more.</p>	<p>numbers in the world around them and discuss what they are. If they are not yet confident with them, try giving them numbers on cards between 1-20 out of order, then put them back into order – if it helps, have tangible items to match the numerals as this will show the quantity increasing. Get your little one involved in the kitchen; this is a great place to practise weighing food and measuring liquids, using words like full, empty and halfway!</p>
<p>Understanding the World</p> 	<p>Our main topics will focus on Minibeasts and Animals, giving us a wonderful opportunity to observe, examine, question, draw and write about creatures big and small. We will be growing our very own caterpillars into butterflies which is very exciting! In addition, we will utilise technology to research animals and more, learning to control a mouse and type using a keyboard. Finally, we will talk about our families and the special places we visit with them, talking about traditions and routines.</p>	<p>If you have a desktop computer, laptop or tablet, this term is a really good one for enhancing technical skills beyond simple apps; encourage your child to write, type and move the mouse/their finger to make changes happen. As they are going to be exploring the growth and change of animals, compare this to the growth and change within your families; look at old photos or baby photos together!</p>
<p>Expressive Arts and Design</p> 	<p>We love to get outdoors and get inspired by the world around us in our artwork. As well as lots of acting, role play and music out in the garden, the children will be extending their art skills to include sculpture; when we learn our Animals topic, we will create our very own animals out of clay! This will be enhanced by using different materials to create collages and mixed media artwork.</p>	<p>Use playdough or salt dough to explore texture and form at home; what can they create? If you visit a beach or a muddy area, make impressions in the materials using your feet, hands and objects from the natural world. Using paper and crayons to make rubbings is a lovely activity to see the different marks that can be made using the world!</p>
<p>RE What places are special and why? What times/stories are special and why?</p>	<p>This term will focus on places of worship, not just for Christians but more broadly for all faiths, and we will look at the different stories and beliefs held by differing religions. We will think about our own faith(s) and talk about respecting those that differ from our own.</p>	<p>Together, explore your own ideas of faith. If you would like, visit places of worship local to you – this could be a church, a synagogue or a mosque, for example.</p>