



EYFS Spring 2



It has been a great half term, the children have wowed us with their learning and have really been engaged and excited to learn about different people who help us.

The children really enjoyed our theme 'Superheroes!' The children shared experiences they have had at the doctors, dentists or vets. We looked at space travel and made a timeline of significant events that have happened. Unfortunately, the visit to the school from the fire service could not go ahead, where the children were due to learn about how to stay safe in the home and find out about a fire engine. We have rebooked this experience for after the half term, and we will keep you posted about this.

This half term, the children will be looking at our theme – Animals! We will be starting by going on a pretend safari trip, looking at wild animals and their habitats. This will be followed by a lion hunt, looking at tadpoles, farm animals and insects.

Key books for Spring 2:

These will be used to promote a love of reading, encourage new vocabulary, discussion about what makes them unique, and an exciting hook, which will engage children in new learning and different activities.

- Rumble in the Jungle
- We are going on a lion hunt
- Oi frog
- Little Red Hen
- What the Ladybird Heard
- A range of non-fiction texts

PE: PE will be on a **Wednesday** for both classes. On a **Tuesday** for Honeybees and a **Thursday** for Ladybirds. Please can children come into school in their PE kit on their class days. Please dress the children appropriately for the weather, black joggers or shorts and school hoodies/jumpers, with trainers for outdoors.

Physical Development:

Fine Motor (Finger Gym):

Children will have continuous access to activities that will develop hand and finger strength, which will help them with pencil grip. We will practice using tools to make changes to materials, such as scissors, split pins, tape. We will look at the correct letter formation and practice this.

Gross Motor and PE:

Children will have access to resources where they can balance, sit or ride on, or pull and push.

In **PE** this term, the children will be focusing on dance and ball skills. The children will develop their ball skills through the topic of 'weather'. Children will continue to build on fundamental ball skills such as throwing and catching, rolling a ball, using targets, dribbling with feet, kicking a ball, bouncing and catching a ball. Children will be able to develop their fine and gross motor skills through a range of game play with balls. Children will work independently and with a partner and will develop decision making and using simple tactics. In dance, the children will develop their expressive movement through the topic of 'places'. Children will explore traveling actions, shapes and balances. They will also be given the opportunity to copy, repeat and remember actions. The children will use counting to help them keep in time with the music.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

SCARF Unit: Rights and responsibilities

During this unit, we will explore the following:

- The children will think about how we can look after people who are special to us.
- We will explore how to be caring and kind.
- The children will think about how they can look after their friends.
- We will explore what makes a good friend.
- We will think about how we can be helpful at home.
- We will think about how we can care for and look after the things in our classroom and at home.
- Together, we will look at how we can care and look after our world.
- We will also talk about money and how we can look after this.

Communication and Language

Key Vocabulary for this half term:

Animals, wild, farm, herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, nocturnal, habitat.

- We will continue to use circle times, as a whole class and in small groups to develop use of language and communication skills.
- During our VIPERS sessions where we read a book as a whole class and answer questions about what we read, the children will be introduced to a new WORD. We will talk about the meaning of this word and will display this in the classroom. We will encourage the children to use this new word!
- We will look at different rhymes and poems and learn these.
- The children will practice retelling stories we have read, thinking about key words or repeating phrases from the books.
- The children will engage in and talk about selected non-fiction texts.
- We will look at question words and use these to ask questions to find out more about things we are learning about or stories we have read.
- Using events, such as a visit from the fire service, we will look at talking about an event in detail, and in order.

Expressive Arts and Design

- The children will recognise, create and describe patterns. Looking at animals, we will use different colours and shapes to create different patterns using these as a stimulus.
- We will combine different materials and medians to make a collage. The children will explore different materials and textures and talk about these.
- The children will learn to use different techniques for joining materials when constructing. (Additions this half term: treasury tags)
- The children will continue to use role play to take on a role and create a narrative for their play. We will encourage them to retell stories they have listened to or recreate events we have discussed.
- We will encourage the children to create their own props to aid role-play.
- As part of Design and Technology we will look at a wheel mechanism and how this works. The children will create a Safari/Farm Vehicle and use a mechanism in this. The children will learn to use simple wood work tools safely. We will plan and evaluate vehicles.
- The children will learn and perform number of songs.
- Children will continue explore how sounds can be changed, using a variety of different instruments in our music studio.

Understanding of the World

- The children will learn about and then identify different habitats animals around the world live in. We will look at similarities and differences between these.
- We will look at animals that live in manmade homes and those that are wild.
- We will talk about what the children have observed about different animals.
- The children will learn about what different animals need to survive.
- We will look at United Kingdom and Tanzania on a World Map. The children will explore the differences in climate and physical geography.
- The children will explore a number of simple maps. We will learn about how a map is laid out and what a key means.
- The children will create a simple map using symbols.
- The children will talk about key features of religious celebrations and what this means for people around the world. (Easter)

EYFS EARLY MATHS

Our Mathematics focus is '**Building 9 and 10**'. During this, we will look at counting forward and backwards. The children will practise recognising number cards and showing the amount the number is. We will focus on subitising (instantly recognising quantities without touch counting) larger numbers by seeing smaller groups to help, Eg – I know it's 9 because I can see 3, 3, 3.

Comparing: Children will continue to understand that when comparing numbers, one quantity can be more than, the same as or fewer than another quantity. They will compare 2 or 3 groups of items.

Composition – number bonds to 10: Children will continue to develop the understanding that all numbers are made up of smaller numbers. Using a 10 frame, the children will explore numbers by looking at how many more they need to make 10. There will be a big focus on number bonds/pairs to 10. Eg: 1+9 2+8 3+7 4+6 5+5 and we will talk about patterns the children notice.

3D shape and patterns: Children will explore and learn the names of 3D shapes and use these to build. We will look at 3D shape properties and group objects depending on these, talking about similarities and differences. Children will build on previous pattern work and we will investigate complex patterns, looking at using items more than once in each repeat. Eg: ABB AABBB

Please remember, all children progress at different paces, we will be delving deeper in to the above concepts and really exploring them at each child's level.

EYFS EARLY WRITING

Our writing area is always busy! The children love drawing pictures and writing notes to friends or family. They may practise their names, make cards, or write the letters they know. Now we have learned all the rhymes for letter formation in Read Write Inc, we will practise the letters, making sure the children start in the correct place to make the shapes.

The children will take part in whole class or small group writing inputs. We use something called Fred Fingers when spelling – this is where the children say a word they want to spell and then segment/break up the word into the sounds, pinching each sound onto their fingers. Eg: cat segmented c-a-t. The children hold up 3 fingers as there are 3 sounds and pinch on the sounds. They then write each sound down to spell the word 'cat'. We encourage the children to use the sounds they know when spelling independently, we call this 'phonetically plausible' spellings. Sounds have different spellings and the children learn them at different stages in Read Write Inc phonics. For example the 'igh' sound, can be written as 'i-e' 'ie', 'y'. This means a child may spell the word kite, as kight, kiet, kyt, kite. Once the children have had a go independently, we will then help them to use the correct spelling.

We will also look at a sentence and talk what we need to remember when writing one. We will plan sentences and count the number of words. We will talk about a Capital letter to begin a sentence and explain why we need finger spaces in between each word. The children will use a lolly pop stick to help them remember! We then use a full stop to finish.

All children are at different stages in their writing. Teaching and learning is targeted at individual needs.

EYFS EARLY READING

The children have really enjoyed their reading and we couldn't be prouder of their love for reading. They are particularly enjoying our new reading areas within the EYFS classrooms and are using the new cushions and quiet area beautifully!

In the EYFS the children bring home 2 books on a Friday. One of these is the Read Write Inc book they have been learning to read in their phonics groups during the week. As a result, the children should be fluent in reading this and it is an opportunity for them to show off their reading. The other book the children will bring home is a Read Write Inc Book Bag Book. These are closely matched to the book they have been reading in phonics sessions and are a chance for children to practise their reading skills. The children have enjoyed using our new reading areas in our classrooms, to choose a Love to Read Library book to bring home to share with you too.

The children have had a strong focus on red words this term and we are sending the red words home that they have learnt so far. These words are 'red' because we cannot use all our sounds to read them, therefore, they are referred to as 'red' or 'tricky' words. The children have been taught to look for the trick in the words and the sounds they can't use, this gives them clue to how a part of the 'red' word sounds. For example the word 'my' has a trick in the 'y' sound. The children can use the 'm' sound but not the 'y' sound and this trick helps them remember what the word is.

You will be receiving more information about the RWI books, colour and/or focus sounds your child will be looking at this half term and as always please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or questions.

If there are any sounds or red word your child is finding tricky to remember, seeing them and practising them lots will really help. We find the little and often approach works well.

