

Maths

This term Reception are going to be measuring their bodies and various other objects to learn about height, length and weight and to practise using vocabulary such as short/er/est, long/er/est, tall/er/est, light/er/est etc.

The children are going to continue looking closely at the composition of numbers, for example how many different ways can we make the number six?

The children have been practising finding one more than/one less than a number and how to write numbers correctly.

The children will be playing lots of games to practice subitising (recognising quantities without counting) up to 5.

A lot of maths in the early years is based on teaching the children mathematical language so after half term we will be focusing on shape, addition and subtracting vocabulary.



Butterfly Class Reception

Spring Term Topics:

All About Me

&

Minibeasts/Growing



Visits from People Who Help Us

If you have a job that helps people in the community e.g. police officer, doctor, dentist, vet etc and are happy to come into school and talk about your profession please let us know!

Communication and Language

We will continue to be having plenty of "Big Book" time and sharing stories every day, encouraging the children to respond with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read.

Our whole early years team are really focusing on encouraging the children to speak in full sentences as much as possible this term, and will be modelling back to the children the correct past, present and future tenses if necessary. Please can you also do this at home and remember to praise your child for speaking clearly and well.

Literacy

The children will be encouraged to use their phonic sounds to write labels, captions and short sentences in a range of different contexts. They will be writing about themselves and their families.

Please keep up the regular reading at home, ideally four times a week and repeating books so that children start to recognise words rather than having to sound out every word.

Phonics

The children will be learning the following digraphs and trigraphs that are hidden in the middle of words: oo, ar, ur, long oo, or, ow (cow), oi, ear, air, ure, er, ow/oa and blending these sounds together to read words. We hope to see the children trying to use these new sounds in their writing (lots of lists, captions, letters to characters and labels).

Characteristics of Effective Learning

The most successful pupils are the ones who display many of the Characteristics of Effective Learning. These characteristics include:

- Using what they know in their play
- Being willing to 'have a go'
- Being involved and concentrating
- Keeping on trying
- Enjoying achieving what they set out to do
- Having their own ideas
- Choosing ways to do things and new ways

We constantly encourage, model and praise these behaviours continually throughout the year.



Understanding the World

We are covering lots of fun topics this Spring term. The children are going to be learning more about themselves and their bodies, thinking about their families and how different families can be and learning different ways to keep themselves healthy. We will be learning about China and how the Chinese celebrate Chinese New Year. We will also be thinking about people who have jobs in our community that help us.

When the weather gets warmer after half-term we will be learning about lifecycles, minibeasts and how things grow.



Keep Trying!



In **PSHE**, our Jigsaw theme is 'Dream and Goals' and then 'Healthy Me'. We will cover:

- Stay motivated when doing something challenging
- Keep trying even when it is difficult
- Work well with a partner or in a group
- Have a positive attitude
- Help others to achieve their goals
- Work hard to achieve your own goals

This is a great topic as it matches one of our most important Characteristics of Effectively Learning - 'Keeping on Trying'!

- Exercising
- Moving and Resting
- Healthy and unhealthy foods
- Sleep
- Keeping Clean
- Stranger Danger



Expressive Art and Design

As part of our All About Me topic the children will be looking closely at their features and painting self-portraits and creating collage faces. They will be creating hand and footprints and making life size pictures of themselves. There is going to be a range of role play opportunities provided such as a police station and a veterinary clinic for them to express themselves through role-play. Other art activities will be based on the children's suggestions and interests over the next term.

Physical Development

The children will be doing lots of fine motor tasks this term (fiddly little tasks that require dexterity in the fingers) in order to improve their pencil control when it comes to handwriting. They will also begin to learn our handwriting script, using a range of media.

In PE the children will be learning basic skills and how to navigate around others safely during their sessions with Mr Menage. They will begin to learning how to defend and attack in games. They will have regular opportunities to use large scale equipment such as bikes, crates and planks and our wonderful Trim Trail.

