



EYFS Curriculum Overview

Spring Term 1

Amazing Animals



Communication & Language

The children will enjoy listening and participating in a range of books. The children will be encouraged to use descriptive vocabulary and understand the meaning of a range of words through stories. The children will sequence stories and familiar events and retell them. We will continue NELI sessions in the afternoons focusing on developing vocabulary, storytelling, and narrative skills. The children are encouraged to use their speaking and listening skills within the continuous provision and be involved in high quality interactions with both the adults and peers.

Physical Development

Gross Motor

This half term the children will be exploring different ways of moving. They will be showing increasing control using balls and bean bags when throwing and catching. Children will begin to develop skipping rope skills and use bats or racquets to hit a large target.

Fine Motor

We will take part in daily Dough Disco and Funky Finger activities to develop fine motor skills and the development of pre-writing skills. The children will practise using a pencil and holding it effectively to form recognisable letters focusing on letters in the curly letter family and forming most letters in their name correctly.

PE

This term the children will be looking at Gymnastics and Dance. In gymnastics they will be focusing on basic shapes, rolls, balances and jumps. They will learn the correct techniques and how to perform these safely. They will also be looking to follow mini routines that will include some low equipment. In dance they will be looking to follow simple movements and use these movements in order to create their own mini routines. The children will work on listening to a piece of music or narrative and select movements they feel fit this.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We take part in regular circle time dedicated to develop children's personal, social and emotional development. We will be developing our self-regulation skills by learning about different ways we can calm down when feeling frustrated or excited. We will also take part in role play games to support children to consider the feelings of others and begin to use talk to resolve conflict. In addition, we will learn about this term's school value which is respect. Adults support PSED every day through the way they join, guide and extend children's play. Staff model positive interactions, help children practise turn-taking and sharing, and gently coach them through tricky social moments so they learn to solve problems with kindness. Adults notice and celebrate caring behaviours, support children to use their voices confidently, and create a calm,

nurturing atmosphere where everyone feels safe, included and valued. Through these daily interactions, PSSED is continuously strengthened across the provision.

Literacy

Word Reading/Phonics

Children will begin to learn to read and write level 3 letter sounds and tricky words. We will continue to develop blending and segmenting skills to read and write simple CVC words. The children will learn the letter names for each letter of the alphabet.

Reading Comprehension

We will be enjoying and joining in with a range of books related to our topic. The children will be sequencing familiar stories, learning new vocabulary and beginning to answer simple questions about what we have read. They will also be having 1:1 reading books and guided reading sessions.

Writing

We will begin Spring 1 by reading 'The Three Little Pigs' and will learn to write short captions. We will move on to enjoy the story of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' with a focus on writing short captions for a wanted poster. We will finish the term by writing facts about farm animals and recounting our trip to Puxton Park. Alongside this, the children will be developing their writing skills in daily phonics lessons and through opportunities in the continuous provision. We will also continue handwriting sessions focusing on letters in the curly letter family.

Maths

Number and Numerical Patterns

This term the children will be following the Numbersense programme and NCETM. We will develop our counting skills by counting out up to ten items from a larger group. Within our partitioning units we will support the children to discuss the parts within each quantity to 10, and look at the different ways that each number can be broken up and put together. This term we will focus on partitioning numbers up to 5.

Shape, Space & Measure

We will begin the term by exploring repeating patterns, progressing from children copying simple alternating AB patterns to identifying different structures in the 'unit of repeat', such as ABB or ABBC. Patterns can be made with objects like coloured cubes, small toys, buttons and keys, and with outdoor materials like pine cones, leaves or large blocks, as well as with movements and sounds.

Understanding the World

In Spring 1, our Understanding the World curriculum helps children make meaningful connections across people, places and time.

People, Culture and Communities

In *People, Cultures and Communities*, children learn about people who help us and explore the traditions of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday, building awareness of community roles and celebrations.

The Natural World

We will investigate materials through the story of *The Three Little Pigs*, discovering which materials are strong or weak, while also observing seasonal changes linked to winter. We will also be learning about animals and their habitats.

Past and Present

We will compare farming long ago with farming today, noticing how tools, technology and daily life have changed.

Expressive Art and Design

We will be learning about our artist of the term Henri Rousseau. We will be exploring and playing with a wide range of colours and tools. Linking with our Three Little Pigs story in literacy we will also be learning how to make structures to build homes for the pigs. The children will play cooperatively as part of a group

to develop and act out narratives in their play. The children have daily opportunities to access the art and workshop areas within continuous provision.

Music

Musical Patterns

This term begins with activities designed to get children recognising musical patterns in songs and music. They will add actions to match song lyrics, play listening games to develop recall of sound sequences, and have fun exploring music-and-movement patterns through songs such as The Mouse And The Giant. The children will develop their recognition of classroom percussion instruments, using them to play simple accompaniments and simple rhythm patterns. They will also begin to explore ways to change sounds and create simple patterns, e.g. playing loudly, quietly, slowly or quickly. The children will compose music inspired by transport, machines and robots and explore descriptive sounds to develop an understanding of pictorial notations. Each lesson has an active listening activity, providing the children with regular opportunities to experience music through movement, dance, art or role-play.

French

We will be practising our listening and speaking skills as we focus on using our greetings, introductions and numbers in French. We have started to learn our colours and will apply all our learning as we find out about France and what it is like to join in with their celebrations for Épiphanie - La Fête des Rois, Mardi Gras and Easter. We will continue to consider months and seasons as we celebrate birthdays, Joyeux Anniversaire.

Trips/Enrichment Activities

This term we will be participating in Safety Week and taking part in a range of workshops including a visitor from the RNLI. We will also take part in a workshop all about farming in the past. We will also enjoy a trip to Puxton Park to enrich our learning on farming and farm animals.

Homework

In addition to reading, phonics and maths homework, a half termly topic homework menu will also be set. The homework menu consists of a bank of activities, which will vary from design and technology, art, maths, science, literacy or computing. We encourage you to do at least two tasks on the menu. The purpose of this is to immerse the children within the topic and to give them a varied homework diet to showcase different talents. If your child is very proud of their work, they are welcome to bring it in for a show and tell, or to contribute to the class topic display.

It is essential that your child reads as much as possible. This doesn't always have to be your child's reading book; it is just as beneficial for your child to read a wider variety of fiction and non-fiction. Please ensure that you fill in their reading records if you have listened to them read. Weekly homework will be sent home every Tuesday. We ask that all homework folders are handed in on a Monday.