

Fairy Tales

Foundation Stage
Spring Term 2017

Welcome:

Welcome back to a new term in Foundation Stage. We hope you all had very enjoyable Christmas holiday. The children have made special friends within the class and have built strong relationships with the adults in school.

This term routines will change slightly as the children will be attending collective worship regularly three times a week and will eventually attend daily. The children will have a handwriting session on a Monday and over the term more opportunities will be planned for them to work independently of adults on adult focused learning. The morning routine will now include; dough disco/ Write Dance, book browsing, registration, adult focus, handwriting, collective worship, playtime, phonics, independent learning time and lunchtime. The afternoon routine will be very similar to last term and include registration, quiet time, adult focus, independent learning time, story/songs, home.

Your child's learning will continue to be based on the principles of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and be delivered through a theme based approach. Class R had a discussion before the holiday about what they would like to learn they had lots of questions including why is water wet, How do ovens cook?, we will answer these questions through the theme of fairy tales.

Communication and Language/ Literacy: We will continue to provide opportunities for children to develop their speaking and listening skills, and build on their knowledge of phonics; recapping phase two and working within phase three. The children will continue to bring home reading books appropriate to their stage of development to read with you at home. Can we please remind you that you can use the book in many ways retelling, asking questions about characters and setting. Use the story in role play, draw pictures and write about what happened at the beginning/ middle / end of the story. Books will continue to be changed once a week. New letters that have been learnt will be set home to learn through games and activities as well as six keywords at a time that your child needs to learn from memory. We will be holding a phonics party for parents/carers this term which will give you practical ideas of how you can continue to help your children to learn at home.

We will continue to model writing daily; it will benefit the children to see writing at home so they understand we write for a variety of purposes.

They should be encouraged to use their knowledge of letters and sounds when writing labels, lists, letters, plans, stories and other forms of writing. We will support the children with handwriting skills and formation of letters. We will continue to provide opportunities for them to use their fine motor and gross motor skills such as using Lego, play dough, threading, climbing, pulling/pushing during independent learning time and physical sessions.

Physical Development: Children will continue to enjoy a wide range of outdoor activities using the bikes, stilts, bats and balls to encourage energetic play. Indoors we provide a range of tools and activities to develop fine motor skills. Thursday is a structured hall session. The children are becoming very good at changing into their PE kit with minimal help, please encourage this independent dressing at home. Please continue to label all the children's belongings to help us find and return any missing items of clothing.

Maths: During terms three and four the children will continue to practise reciting the number names in order, counting sets of objects, becoming familiar with the vocabulary used to compare numbers, adding/subtracting small numbers in practical activities and learning the properties of some 2-d and 3-d shapes. The children are also learning to recognise 2-digit numbers and to write numerals using the correct formation. The children will continue to practise adding and will be introduced to subtraction. They will continue to use lots of resources to support their counting, addition and subtraction.

At home the children should be encouraged to count daily touching/moving each object as they count. The children should be counting on from various different numbers and using different methods of counting/ adding and subtracting. I.e. using fingers, objects, stairs, number tracks.

Understanding the World / Expressive Arts and Design:

Within these areas the children will gain a greater knowledge and understanding of certain aspects of Science, History, Geography, Art, Music and ICT. The children's questions enable us to explore a variety of scientific and geographical ideas. When thinking about why is water wet we have the opportunity to look at the changes to water and discuss what it is made of. We will so learn about Chinese New Year. It will enable us to learn how different cultures celebrate. We will learn about traditional Chinese Music and look at colour and movement, including Chinese dragon dance. Itats in different areas of our garden/ areas of the world.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Independent Learning is a time when children demonstrate and learn Personal, social and emotional skills. It enables the children to work independently at these skills. It allows the children to explore friendship and conflict, both important life skills. It is a time where they have the opportunity to work through possible differing ideas and opinions, finding a compromise so they can move on with their play. Circle Time sessions allow us to approach certain areas to be celebrated or discussed that arise during the week. Yellowrina is our class puppet and she shares her worries with the children and they then suggest ideas of how they can help her. It is a special time where the children play games and listen carefully to each other's ideas.

RE: We will learn about why Christians celebrate Shrove Tuesday, Mothering Sunday, and Easter, as well as learning about the Bible stories of 'Noah's Ark' and 'Daniel and the Lions Den' and the Good Samaritan.

Snack/lunch: The children will now be having their snack during morning break time. Please ensure that all children have a named water bottle in school everyday. Children enjoy the fruit that is available at snack time. Please can I remind you that lunch boxes should contain a healthy balanced meal.

Please do contact us if you have any questions, queries or concerns. We are very happy to help in any way.

Miss Zimmerman, Mrs Bowden and Mrs Roberts.