

Topic Work: Ourselves.

During the first few days of the autumn term, we will be settling children into school life and beginning to establish routines and rules in reception. Teaching staff will support play based activities and begin to get to know the children, making sure they feel safe, secure and happy. Throughout the school year, children will be supported and encouraged in becoming independent, with the aim by the summer term to need less help with daily routines.

The areas of learning for the foundation stage curriculum will be incorporated throughout the first half term topic, entitled 'Ourselves'. Over the weeks, children will participate in activities that include; naming the different parts of our body, what keeps our bodies healthy and how we should care for each other and ourselves.



The children will also be thinking about their own childhood from birth to the present day. We would be very grateful if, when requested, you could please send a photograph of your child as a baby. We would like to keep the picture to use for a display or to keep in a special class book.

Topic Work: People who help us, Winter and Celebrations.

After half term, we will be studying 'people who help us'. We will find out how people help us at school, at home and in the community. Each week we will look at a certain profession including police officers, fire fighters, medics, vets, postal workers and lifeguards.

It is hoped that we will have visiting speakers from some of these professions so that the children have opportunity to ask questions and see and handle real resources. We will carry out activities related to these professions, including role-play of a doctor's surgery (where children can write out prescriptions and examine patients) and also a role-play post office.

We shall be talking about road safety and we will take a walk around the school area to see road crossings and the use of a crossing patrol officer.

It would be very beneficial if you could talk to your child about the different people who may help your family and explain how and why they are helpful.

Mathematics

The following are areas of Maths we will be looking at this term; number recognition, counting accurately and ordering numbers. Here are some ideas to help support your child at home.

Number Work:

Look for numbers in your every day lives (- door numbers, clocks, on television, coins, on packages, in supermarkets) and talk about what they mean. Number recognition 1 - 10 and one to one counting of objects would be especially useful.

Shapes - 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional:

It would help the children if they could identify circles, squares, rectangles and triangles in their every day lives, e.g. objects found around the home, outside and in the car. Also, packaging is a good way of identifying cylinders, cuboids and cubes. Balls are good for recognising spheres. You could have shape hunts to try to find these 3D shapes around the home.

Measures

To help develop important mathematical vocabulary your family and your child could compare themselves in several ways - Who is taller/shorter ? Who has longer feet, hands, arms? Which object is heavier, lighter?

Reading

When your child receives a book and reading diary it is helpful if you can write in the reading diary if you have read / shared the books as this will help practitioners to monitor the strategies your child uses to read. Please share and talk together about what is happening in the story and encourage your child to look carefully at the pictures. Throughout the year, your child will bring home some of the key words they need to learn. Please help your child to read and write these words. You can play games with them e.g. snap, matching, pairs and lotto. You could also, match them to words in their books, put them together to make a sentence or identify them as you are out shopping or travelling.



In reception, we implement a programme called KRM, where children are taught in three fifteen minutes sessions per day to read through a 'reading framework' based on psychological principles of teaching and learning. Findings have shown that following this scheme, all children when tested in Year 2 will achieve at least a level 2B in literacy.

PE: Reception Chad (Miss Geobey's class) will have their PE classes on Wednesday and Friday. Reception Vale (Miss Cashmore's class) will have their PE classes on Thursday and Friday. Please make sure your child has shorts, T-shirt and pumps.