



Early Years Spring 2024: All About Our Learning



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be encouraged to tell each other about our achievements and self-evaluate our own work. We will think about how to set our own goals and how we can achieve them. As we learn together, we will be asked to share and cooperate with friends and other peers.

During our talk time sessions, we will be encouraged to use descriptive vocabulary to express our feelings if we feel hurt or upset. As we learn, we will be sharing our feelings and opinions about the activities we are involved in.

Physical Development

As we exercise we will refine our running, jumping, climbing, skipping and hopping skills. In our indoor learning spaces, we will be using: scissors, paint brushes, woodwork and sewing alongside using a knife and fork as we eat to develop our fine motor skills. We will ensure we use our core muscles to achieve good posture when sitting at a table or on the floor. As we draw and write, we will continue to master our pencil hold and use correct letter formation of upper and lower-case letters as we write our name and words.

Whilst using the large apparatus, we will develop our overall body strength, balance, coordination and agility. During our outdoor activities, we will make obstacle courses and challenge ourselves to combine different movements.

Literacy

During phonics we will continue to learn the initial code and read individual letters by saying the sound for them. We will be continuing to develop how to read a word by saying the sounds, for example m-a-n = man. As we read, we will also be applying taught focus words. We will be encouraged to read and write simple phrases. We will continue using the 'Message Centre' to apply our sound and word knowledge to our writing skills. We will be learning how to write simple sentences using a starter such as 'It is a.....' and using a capital letter and full stop as we write sentences. We will start our daily Drawing Club sessions and explore characters, settings alongside developing our vocabulary and mark making. During book talk we will think about descriptive words and focus upon adding them to a sentence.

Expressive Art and Design

As artists, we will begin to use our personal sketch books. We will develop our colour mixing skills in order to create colours we can use to represent what we see and want to represent. We will apply these skills as we observe winter foliage and begin our class artist explorations. We will be using different resources and experimenting with different joining techniques as we use them in our shared Atelier, class workshop areas and learn how to use the wood work table. We will listen to music from China as we learn about Chinese New Year. We will be encouraged to develop storylines in our pretend play using the resources to create dens and costumes alongside musical instruments to perform to each other.



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Mathematics

As mathematicians, we will continue to sing counting songs and number rhymes as well as listening to stories that involve counting. We will explore shapes and patterns in our learning environment. We will investigate how shapes can be combined to make new shapes and build with 3D shapes in our play. We will explore composition of numbers to 10. As we learn about numbers, we will subitise using regular dot patterns on a dice and explore different representations of numbers. As we learn, we will make predictions about the outcome if one is added, or if one is taken away. We will be exploring and comparing items by weight and capacity alongside developing our understanding of comparing objects by length and height. During the day we will look at the passing of time and sequence events.

Communication, Language and Literacy

We will be encouraged to share our interests and listen to our friends share their thoughts and feelings. As we play and learn together, we will be encouraged to be resilient and problem solve by talking through our ideas and setting goals for ourselves. During the day we will explore new vocabulary and apply it in sentences as we talk to other people. We will continue to hear new stories and rhymes and talk about what we have heard. We will be encouraged to ask questions to find out information during our exploration play and describe our experiences.

Understanding the World

As historians, we will continue to develop our understanding of past and present as we look at the chronology of our school day and events in our past. We will look at school days in the past and link up with a partner school looking at similarities and differences as we create a timeline together of our different schools. During RE, we will learn about the celebrations of Ramadan and Easter. We will also continue to develop our understanding of the religion of Hinduism. As geographers, we will continue our exploration of maps and globes as we learn about other locations and compare them to our locality. We will use specific vocabulary to describe the contrasting environments. We will think about how other children's lives are different to our own as we look at how they travel to school, where they live and what they eat. As scientists, we will explore the world around us and discuss and observe the changes over seasons as we welcome Winter. During our outdoor sessions we will ask questions to find out about what we see, hear, smell and touch. In class, we will keep a weather chart to record the daily changes in the weather. As we develop our use of the technology resources in the setting, we will begin using our class desk top computers and continue to explore programmable toys such as the Bee Bot. We will also continue to use our class interactive white board to mark make and complete simple online games.