

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We will be looking at a variety of traditional tales over the half term. As we explore the stories, we will be looking at the things we can learn from each and how they might apply to our lives. We will also look at how each character might be feeling and how our actions can affect those around us.

Help your child by: Talk to your child about their day. Help them to reflect on any choices they have made and help to develop their emotional literacy by naming your own emotions. This helps the children to identify and label their own emotional state which is the first step to emotional regulation during times of frustration and unrest.

Literacy

The phonic skills across Reception have really flourished over the past term and we will continue to work in small groups across both classes. We will continue to develop an awareness of full stops, capital letters and finger spaces when writing. We will also continue to look at more red words (which can't be sounded out – you can't Fred a red, you put it in your head) as increased exposure supports reliable sight recognition.

Help your child by: Sharing your child's small group reading story with them when they bring it home. Remember these need to be returned the following week on your child's reading day. The reading records will also help keep both teachers and yourselves better informed on your child's reading journey. If you have any questions about supporting phonics at home, please see a member of the EYFS team.

Expressive Arts and Design

Throughout our new topic we will be exploring different traditional styles of artwork from around the worlds which we will have a go at replicating to create our own artwork. In addition to this we will be focusing on traditional stories which we will be retelling in a variety of different ways including shadow puppets, sand-scapes, physical construction and costumes to wear.

Help your child by: Taking a moment when reading with your child to discuss the illustrations which you could even have a go at exploring at home using paints, pens, recycled packaging or even natural materials found outside. If you would like to visit a gallery on the weekend, don't forget to share it with us on Tapestry.

Communication and Language

We will be continuing to learn how to listen to our partners and respond to questions. We will be retelling our traditional tales with each other using different resources in our learning environment. When reading our traditional tales we will discuss new vocabulary and challenging the children to use it in their everyday play. We always encourage role play which supports language development.

Help your child by: Asking your child to share their day with you. Using pictures from Tapestry as a prompt could help to encourage more speaking about friendships and new learning. Singing songs and rhymes at home is another great way to strengthen your child's communication skills.



Physical Development

We will be continuing our PE lessons and strengthening the use of our gross-motor and fine-motor muscles through pushing, patting, throwing, catching and kicking. We will also be looking at how to care for ourselves especially when we are not feeling well and looking at good personal hygiene.

Help your child by: Encouraging them to dress and undress themselves at home. We would also love to see some of the great games and activities you do with your children uploaded onto Tapestry so we can share these with their friends! **Please bring spare clothes for your child to keep at school and ensure your child has their PE Kit in school every week**

Mathematics

Reception will also focus on 3D shapes and all of the properties related to all of these shapes. We will also be focusing on language related to measuring and ordering by size, length and weight. This will support the children when we look at the ordering and sequencing of familiar events. We will also revise the use of language related to position and time.

Help your child by:

Compare the weight/length of household items e.g. which is heavier a tin of beans or a pair of slippers? What would you use to measure the weight/length? Don't forget that weekly shopping will provide you with the opportunity to measure items and use scales for a purpose.

Understanding the World

We will be using more ICT to retrieve information about all of the different topics that we will be looking at. Children will be given more opportunity to use ICT throughout their learning. We will discuss how to stay safe online.

Help your child by: showing your child how to use child friendly programs on any ICT equipment you have at home. Talk to your child about staying safe online and talk them through the next upload you put on tapestry. You can always attend our parent workshops to inform you on how to keep your child safe online or speak to the class teacher if needed. Do remember to limit the amount of screen time – TV or tablet – that your child is exposed to.



Paraguay Class



Panama Class

Don't forget:

- Spare clothes for your child.
- Wellington boots for school (if available)
- Junk modelling brought in to class.
- Book bags in every day.
- Write a comment in the reading records after sharing the new story.
- **Please name all items of clothing!**

We will no longer be accepting any financial contributions towards resources, but if you would like to support our EYFS we love to receive donations of tissues, wet-wipes and spare underwear.

We are a healthy eating school, so if you wish to bring in a treat for the children for your child's birthday – Fruit is ideal.



Key dates:

- Thursday 16th January Parents Evening booking opens.
- WC 27th January STEM week
- Tuesday 4th February Safer Internet Day
- Wednesday 12th February Parents Evening
(Children go home at 1:30)



Recommended books:

Here are some of the texts we will be reading this half term; 'Three Little Pigs', 'Goldilocks', 'The Gingerbread man', 'Jack and the Bean Stalk', and many more of the traditional tales.

We also recommend that you sign up to Wood Green Library where you will find a fantastic range of stories available for children as well as a variety of free workshops and clubs available.