



The World about Me and Make Believe - AUTUMN TOPIC

Dear Hedgehog parents/carers,

This term's theme will be named 'The world of me and make believe' to include shape all around us, 'all about me,' nursery rhymes, fairy tales, Harvest and of course CHRISTMAS and will be centred around the children, their interests, their family, establishing basic skills and building on the ones the children already possess. Assessments of the children's learning, development and next steps will be established in the first 2 weeks alongside important elements of school life such as settling in, friendships, how to use and TIDY UP their classroom, putting in place children's desires and ideas for their classroom, building relationships with staff and peers, daily routines and having lots of fun!!

Independence will be the key theme running through the year and observations will focus on thinking for ourselves, being critical thinkers and self-selecting. The children will have the opportunity to express their creativity and imagination through rhyme, rhyming stories, rhyming games, drama, fairy tales and song.

The RE theme will be around - Being special and where do we belong? Why do Christians perform Nativity plays?? The Social and emotional aspects of learning will focus on following the Jenny Mosley philosophy in which she derived the term golden time - Enhancing self-esteem, self-discipline and positive relationships. These sessions will be circle times, setting up listening systems, establishing the golden rules for moral values and encouraging a culture of peer praise. Focusing on -Getting to know you, Listening and concentrating, Feelings, Being Kind, Friendship. WE will also follow the whole school JIGSAW PSHE program - Being me in my world and celebrating difference.

Speaking and listening is one of the most important skills a child needs to get through life. The introduction of the time to talk program will start to develop these skills and weekly whole class activities will support their learning. The talking table will allow a focus group of 4 children and one adult to really secure these skills. The children may bring an object from home when requested to do so, placed in their book bag. This will replace the usual 'show and tell'. Please no other objects or toys from home (comforters may be put into book bags or left with myself). This causes upset should they go missing and can sometime distract the child away from their learning. Please see me if this is going to cause a problem and we will put an individual plan into action. You will be informed as to when it is your child's turn at the talking table.

Kind regards, Miss Ford, Mrs. Clarke and Mrs. Docherty.

<p>Communication and Language</p> <p>*Listening and attention</p> <p>*Understanding</p> <p>*Speaking</p>	<p>Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes provide a rich resource for activities that help children to develop a sense of rhyme (phase 1 phonics). The children will be presented with activities that will encourage them to use their imaginations, enjoyment of rhyme, play with rhymes and respond to what they hear. The children will be encouraged to explore the sounds of words, to use descriptive vocabulary, to identify sounds and to see their ideas recorded in both picture and words.</p>
<p>Literacy</p> <p>*Reading</p> <p>* Writing</p>	<p>The children will start to develop their letters, sounds and reading skills through guided reading and our daily discrete phonics where the children will develop sentence structure through guided writing and handwriting practice. In French we will learn head, shoulders, knees and toes and colours through Uki. Rhyming stories and poems will feature heavily in this topic. Children will have opportunities to write signs, letters, their name. Interactive games will help the children with their letter sounds. Creating their own alphabet mat will also secure this.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> <p>*Numbers</p> <p>*Shape, Space and</p>	<p>Children will be given the opportunity to develop math skills in a meaningful context. They will weigh ingredients to make gingerbread men, learn time language as the mouse climbs down the clock and use this number knowledge to develop subtraction and addition language. They will play a variety of number games, enjoy</p>

measures	and use counting rhymes and develop positional language. The children will be able to spot number patterns and use language such as more or less to compare quantities. Shape all around us will be a good introduction to shape.
Expressive Arts and Design *Exploring media and materials *Being Imaginative	During this topic the children will experience working with a variety of materials as they make collages, puppets and models. They will be able to develop their skills of painting and colour mixing as they paint self- portraits, pictures of the characters. Actions and percussion will be encouraged alongside the nursery rhymes to use their imagination in music. Throughout all activities the children will be encouraged to talk about what they see and feel as they communicate their ideas in art and role play.
Understanding of the World *People and Communities *The World *Technology	The children will be encouraged to make observations, to ask questions and to compare. They can consider why Humpty broke and which materials can be dropped safely and why. By investigating ways to stop cotton wool spiders from sticking on a tape web and making magnetic mice. This will help them understand the properties of different materials. Looking for spider's webs and finding out where wool comes from will encourage the children to gain a greater understanding of their local environment.
Physical Development *Moving and Handling *Health and self-care	Free flow outdoor learning environment will enable the children to develop social skills, gross motor skills, independence through all areas of learning. There will be a role play outside which will change on a regular basis The children will partake in weekly multi skills sessions and a write dance programme. Dough and construction with small pieces will develop fine motor skills. Performing the nursery rhymes/fairy tales will develop coordination, spatial awareness and control. Weekly handwriting practice will develop pencil control.
Personal, social and emotional development	Through our structured Jigsaw program we will look at my world and celebrating difference. The children will be encouraged to speak in a group, to be interested and to consider consequences. Through circle games the children will learn to take turns and to understand the need for agreed codes of behaviour. During 'LEARNING CHOICE' time the children will be developing their independence and making those good learning choices! Small group time working with an adult will develop good relationships with peers and adults.
Adults working in Hedgehog this year.	Class Teacher - Miss. Ford (Fulltime - PPA Wednesday pm) Class support - Mrs. Clarke (Fulltime), Mrs. Docherty (Fulltime) Miss Swift (volunteer young adult) - Monday full day and Thursday am.

- Baking - Friday (Your child will bake every other week). Donation of £5 per term greatly appreciated.
- Story time daily - story making using prompt cards, big books (model reading patterns), sequencing stories, retelling through puppets, making stories using objects.
- Golden time - Friday pm last session should they have achieved all 10 hedgehogs.
- Please talk to me anytime should you have any concerns, activity ideas, want to help out on trips, have any expertise in an area - our door is always open.
- Please note this is an overview of learning and every 2 weeks you will receive a more detailed outline of activities which will include the nursery rhyme/fairy tale and learning objectives.
- Your child will start to use the language 'Learning choice' and 'work' rather than 'play'. This is to differentiate between playtimes and learning time. The classroom activities will still be play based but moving towards a more structured learning environment. Please use this language at home when discussing school. Thank you.

Over this next term we will aim to cover the following Nursery Rhymes - Incy Wincy, Little Miss Muffet, Hickory Dickory Dock. Fairy Tales we will cover in depth will be Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs and The Gingerbread Man. We will also partake in RE, friendship and Harvest themed weeks. We will finish the term with Christmas activities, a Pantomime and a Nativity! WOW! We have had a wonderful first week with your fabulous children and looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

The Hedgehog Team.

