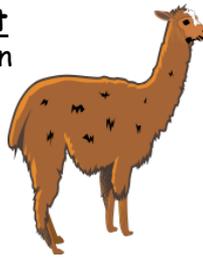


## Personal, social and emotional development

Over this term children will be able to reflect on our 5 **Learning Llamas** - *sharing, have a go, independent, talking* and *sensible* llama during interactions with others to help them recognise and display the expected behaviours of the classroom.



## Communication and language

Children will be expected to listen and respond to ideas expressed by others at learning time. At this stage children should understand and use appropriate questions, "how", "why", "where" and "when". This will be facilitated in group activities and when sharing our weekend news together on a Monday. We will be focussing on all children responding in full sentences.

## Understanding of the world

This term we will be learning about different celebrations beginning with Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year.

The children will be encouraged to closely observe the changes in nature with the onset of 'Winter' and in growing activities after half-term. There will be cooking opportunities linked to our focus stories and we will continue to use age-appropriate software on the iPads.



## Mathematics

The children will be introduced to doubling, halving and sharing in practical ways. Children are encouraged to use mathematical equipment throughout the day, using weighing scales, rulers, Numicon and counting cubes in their play. We will deepen our understanding of measuring, time and money and begin to write representations for number problems.



## Literacy

This term we will be focusing on breaking the flow of speech into words for writing. Children will learn how to segment all the sounds in a word in order to begin to sound out for writing independently. We will learn about sentence structure, and using finger spaces to make our writing clear as well as meaningful.

Our two focus stories for the term will be 'The Little Red Hen' and 'The Gingerbread Man'.



## Physical development

In the morning fine motor activities using threading, tweezers and such are set up to aid and build children's pencil grip and control. All children will be encouraged to hold a pencil effectively to write recognisable letters. In our hall time we will begin to explore gymnastics to build balancing skills and coordination, and an awareness of safety when using equipment.



## Expressive arts and design

Imaginative play is crucial for children's development at this stage. Children will be encouraged to act out and develop narratives in the role-play areas with their friends, as well as make their own resources in order to enhance their own imaginative play linked to learning and stories they know.

We will continue to encourage the children to be creative in their art work, exploring a range of art mediums, such as drawing, painting, collage and junk modelling, through a combination of self-chosen projects and adult-led tasks.



Squirrel & Badger  
Class—Year R.  
Spring 2019



### Some ways you can support your child

Ask them about their day, what they learnt in phonics or maths, what they had for lunch (if they can remember!) and share any concerns they may have encouraging responses in full sentences. Practise the weekend 'news' they want to share with the class so they are prepared to talk in full sentences.

Regularly check the class webpage for curriculum updates, other important information or photos of shared learning.

Please take time to continue to read with your child daily and ensure you sign and comment in the reading record.

Make sure that children have a sensible bedtime as the school day is very tiring. If you or your child has any concerns or questions, please feel free to speak to us.

### Phonics and Reading

We will continue our daily phonics sessions, revisiting some of the sounds we have already taught, as well as introducing new vowel sounds once children are secure in their learning.

As the number of sounds taught increases we will focus more on the application of learning, teaching children to segment sounds in words to write them independently and phonetically plausibly. Children will also be introduced to 'tricky words' which have to be learnt by sight as they have unusual sounds in them. Parents are encouraged to include practising tricky words when reading at home.

Reading in Reception uses a 'book banded' progressive scheme with additional texts slotted in to provide variety and depth.

### General reminders

- All children should arrive for school at 8:45 for registration. Anyone arriving after 8:55 will need to enter via the school office.
- Please ensure children bring in a water bottle to school every day containing water.
- In the colder weather we still play and explore outdoors - please ensure appropriate outerwear such as gloves, hat and footwear are provided.
- For safety reasons no jewellery should be worn except stud earrings and hair should be tightly tied up at all times.
- We invite parents/ carers/grandparents or family members to join us over the course of the year to read a story, talk about your job or hobbies perhaps bringing in objects for children to explore and present to the class on particular themes, festivals or events. We would hope that each child would be represented by a significant adult by the end of the year! Please liaise with your class teacher to book in for a Friday afternoon session 14:30-15:00 (1 adult a week)- we would love to hear from you as having visitors to the school really enriches the children's learning and perspectives.

### Squirrel & Badger Class- Year R Spring Term 2019



### Wildlife Area

This term please make sure your child has a named pair of wellies or other shoes they can wear to get muddy in the wildlife area which we will be using more this term. Please supply in a carrier bag.

### Dates for your diary this term

Half Term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Parent Consultation: Wed 27<sup>th</sup> February & Tues 5<sup>th</sup> March

World Book Day: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Red Nose Day: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March, bring £1 and wear something **red**

Spring Term ends: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 1:30pm