

# Early Years

## CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Spring Term

# LEARNING JOURNEY

## 'THERE AND BACK AGAIN'

- Mystery Bear
- We're Going On A Bear Hunt
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- Handa's Surprise
- New beginnings - Easter Eggs



A range of activities are planned for these themes to incorporate the seven areas of learning using both the indoor and outdoor learning environment.

## PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The children will settle back into the routine of school. They will be encouraged to be independent, organising clothes and belongings, doing up coats, putting on gloves and selecting and tidying away their own resources. **Please can you ensure that all gloves, hats and scarves are named.**

Children will be given opportunities to talk about and understand their feelings through Circle Times, RE and Stories. They will be encouraged to be sensitive to the needs of others and to work, play and interact with each other.

During the theme 'Going for Goals' the children will be encouraged to set their own learning goals and to celebrate their success. We will be developing children's self-esteem and awareness of others.

## COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE



Speaking and Listening skills will be developed and encouraged through a range of activities and opportunities. Children will be encouraged to talk about what they experience, see, hear and feel. Key books, role play and investigations will be used to encourage descriptive vocabulary and to stimulate the children to formulate their own questions.

## LITERACY

A wide selection of stories, rhymes and texts will be used to develop understanding of vocabulary, grammar and comprehension - such as *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. Key words will be identified and learnt and children will learn about sentence construction, writing for different purposes and retelling stories.

We will be reinforcing letter sounds and names, introducing new sounds, digraphs and trigraphs. We will continue to blend for reading, segment for spelling, introduce new tricky words and reinforce old tricky words. We will also learn how to spell some of them.

The children will read different texts through shared guided reading and individual reading.

Children will be encouraged to do their own writing and as they are ready, begin to use letters and letter sounds in their writing. We will continue pencil control and letter formation will be developed through a range of activities.

## MATHEMATICS

The children will continue to develop their Number Skills through a range of activities in our Maths Flash. We will be focussing on simple addition and subtraction problems and encourage children to talk about their calculation using the correct mathematical language, as well as demonstrating their understanding by telling our 'Reasoning Rabbit'.



The children will have opportunities and be encouraged to use and develop Mathematical vocabulary in play situations. They will measure length and have experience of weighing and sorting. They will use coins in role play. There will be opportunities to take part in investigations eg. Which pot holds the most porridge?, favourite fruit, Easter Eggs, where the children will collect and record data and develop their ability to question, predict and talk about results.

## UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Through the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', the children will learn about features of different environments. They will become detectives and find out about our mystery bear. They will take part in investigations and be encouraged to predict what might happen, make observations and talk about results. Children will make observations about the weather and identify changes in the environment. They will be able to recognise and compare seasons. They will learn about eggs and animals that hatch from eggs.



The children will continue to become familiar with the school environment through our own bear hunts. They will find out about traditions such as the giving of Easter eggs.

The children will learn about Mothering Sunday and explore Easter through the new 'Understanding Christianity' syllabus. They will visit St. Mary's Church for an Easter Service.

In technology, the children will continue to access PCs and ipads. They will use programmes to support their learning in other subject areas and make pictures using different tools on the computer and Interactive board. The children will also learn to programme the Beebots linking with our work on directional language.

Through the story of Handa's Surprise we will be looking at differences and similarities between where Handa lives (Africa) and where we live.

## EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

Through our stories the children will have opportunities to explore colour and textures in different mediums and materials and have opportunities to express themselves creatively. They will explore mixing colours and will develop skills in drawing and sketching. There will be opportunities to work individually and collaboratively on creative work inside and outside.



The children will have the opportunity to construct models of new furniture for baby bear.

The children will learn songs and play a range of percussion instruments. They will be encouraged to listen to music, make their own music and talk about feelings in response to music.

They will express themselves through Dance, Role Play and Drama, using music and stories from the Bear Hunt and Goldilocks and The Three Bears.

Role play and Drama will be used to stimulate their imagination and also to develop Speaking and Listening and Social skills. Themes for the Role Play area will include a Post Office and The Three Bear's Cottage. The children will also be visiting Angmering Woods to develop their own stories and adventures involving tree characters that they will make out of clay.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Physical skills and gross motor control will continue to be developed through outdoor play, gym, dance and games. The children will continue to develop balance and co-ordination through using mats, benches, the climbing frame, beanbags, balls, bats, hoops, etc.



The outdoor area will be used for developing skills in using wheeled vehicles, small apparatus and climbing and sliding apparatus.



We will be thinking about ways to keep healthy and warm in the winter weather.

## WAYS TO HELP AT HOME

This is another term with many interesting activities and opportunities planned for the children and your support in reinforcing and extending these activities at home is appreciated and valued.

Thank you for your responses in the Home School Diaries. These help us to keep track of the development of the "whole" of your child and to know about their interests outside school, as well as their development in reading.

Please continue to spend time practising phonics, tricky words and letter formation that is sent home. Enjoy reading with your child and encourage them to take part at their level of development as suggested by the teacher.

Continue to use everyday opportunities to help your child understand Mathematical concepts in real life situations and to use the correct vocabulary, e.g. measuring capacity at bath time, weighing and cooking, spending money and counting using coins.



Encourage your child to be aware of the weather and seasonal changes around them. Encourage them to use the library, internet etc. to find out about bears and other topic related work.

The 'Take Home' activity for half term for your child to go on an adventure and make a map to show their journey. We will remind you of this nearer the time.

Thank you for all your continuing support at home.

