

Year R Autumn 2

Our topic is...



Let's
Celebrate

LEARNING CHARACTERS



Resilient Tortoise



Curious Cat



Considerate Hedgehog



Brave Spider



Reflective Ladybird



Concentrating Caterpillar

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE CURRICULUM



The reception year marks the end of the children's foundation stage education, before they move to Key Stage 1. There are seven areas of learning in the EYFS. All areas of learning and development are of equal importance and are inter-connected. Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, and for building their capacity to learn, form relationships and thrive.

These three areas, the prime areas, are:

- Communication and Language Development;
- Physical Development;
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

We also support children in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied.

Supporting your child's learning at home

The most effective way of supporting your child's learning is by taking an interest in what they are doing. This leaflet should give you a starting point for talking about what learning your child is doing at school. There are ideas below to support their learning at home.



Personal Social and Emotional Development

Many friendships have formed and the children have settled into the daily routines. Look at the website or Class Dojo to see what your children have doing with their friends. Both classes are working hard as a team to gain their 10 smiley faces for their class treats. The children also have weekly responsibilities now - Eco monitor, water bottle monitor, fruit monitor, all roles that the children take on with pride and enjoyment. The children will also be talking about our classroom values. We will be concentrating on 'Caring and Sharing.'



Communication and Language Development

Look out for the gate 'WORDS' as you enter school each morning - Can they read them to you? Do they need sounds or are they just tricky truck words! Please post in your child's portfolio on Class Dojo any adventures from the holidays and weekends. We love to share in their adventures! It is a great communication tool for language. We will be playing games to encourage the children to continue using their communication and language skills. We like to use questioning skills i.e. who, where, what etc. to find out information and to truly gain an understanding of their individual knowledge.



Physical Development

We have begun using our 5-a-day fitness TV day program. It encourages the children to move and travel in different ways and directions. It also provides a great link to our work for ICT. We continue with our 'Wake and Shake' programme and introduce 'Squiggle Wiggle/Digit Dance' which helps our gross and fine motor skills. The term will finish with party games to celebrate birthdays and Christmas. Our P.E sessions concentrate on spacial awareness and travelling in different ways through fun games including parachute games. We continue to practise being independent in putting on/off our coats, particularly working on zips! Keep letting them dress independently at home too! **Tricky buttons and zips!**



Literacy Development

Teaching this term will continue to follow a structured daily phonics programme called '**Unlocking Letters and Sounds**'. Keeping sharing the weekly sound packs - **5 minutes every day will make all the difference**. The children practise reading skills in groups and individual reading. Please read our comments in their reading diary/Class Dojo to see our weekly focus. The children will have library time every week to share a BIG book with our lovely Sue. Phase 2 Tricky truck words (Common Exception Words) have been given to you at consultations - please support your child to learn these as they are crucial for their reading development. Please also see 'video' on Class Dojo giving you more guidance. We will be busy writing our 'potions' rhyming words' 'secret messages' plus 'invitations for birthdays and Christmas messages,' and of course labelling our presents too! Keep practising those name

writing skills. Guidance on handwriting - correct letter formation will be added as videos on Class dojo.



A song we love to sing each Friday Morning

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37YETDACQGO>

Understanding the World



Celebrations everywhere! Halloween/Birthdays/Fireworks/Diwali/Edi! We will investigate what is so special about them and why they happen. We will look at the 'History' behind Halloween and firework celebrations. Christmas arrives in school on Monday 4th December and many activities are explored through linking 'Birthdays and Celebrations'. We look at the importance of 'light' that connects all our celebrations. The children will also have a 'light' touch on the importance of 'Remembrance Day' We will be looking at the importance of 'RESPECT' and certainly reflecting.

- **Communicate:** *What is my experience of celebrating?*
- **Apply:** *What special times do lots of us celebrate?*
- **Inquire:** *What happens at a celebration?*
- **Contextualise:** *How do religious people celebrate?*
- **Evaluate:** *Why is celebrating important for me and for Christians/ Muslims/ Pagans?*

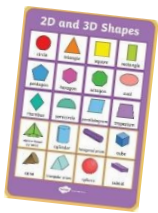
We will also be looking at IT programs- **2simple Purple Mash** plus talking about the importance of logging onto the laptops with a safe and secure password. Do not forget to use the Home learning link given to you for the children to access this system from home computers - These will be inside your child's book bag.

The children will have opportunity to observe changes across the seasons by exploring the signs of Autumn and Winter through nature. A range of learning activities in this topic will include observation, discussion and learning outside.

Mathematical Development




Patterns are all around us! Autumn colours and firework shapes! Patterns have us thinking about our environmental maths! What can you spot? We will begin to look at the language associated with the passing of time, starting with 'What happens during the day and night time'. As we enter into that festive season, we will look at presents and gifts, the children will have the opportunities to explore shape through 3-dimensions, cubes, cuboids! We explore the world around them, as it is made of 3-dimensional solid shapes. We will use these shapes as a gateway to 2-dimensional shapes; squares, oblongs/rectangles and circles - flat shapes. Celebrating birthdays, we will look at number 0-10 and its representation of time, with candles and how to share our cake with each other 'sharing equally' We will also focus on NUMBERS 1,2, and 3 in lots of different forms. Please continue to complete the home learning challenges to support mathematical development.



Expressive Arts and Design



The children will have the opportunity to express their ideas and feelings. We will work with a variety of media - firework explosions will decorate the cloakroom stairwell and Christmas will be visible to all. The children can also choose to paint, draw and make 3D models during their child initiated learning. We will be looking at various artists - Jackson Pollock, Fiona Rae and listening to Handel's firework music. During our Art sessions, we will reflect upon pictures created, enabling the children to develop their super Reflective Ladybird skills.  Every class in the school has a weekly timetabled session of music to sing and learn new celebration songs.

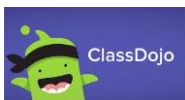


At home, you could:

- Continue reading with your child regularly and practising the phonic sounds covered weekly.
- Expand your child's vocabulary by discussing more challenging and exciting words when reading to them.
- Speak to your child about what they are reading and encourage them to think about what might happen next or to consider why a character may be feeling as they are. This will help with their inference skills.
- Learning monthly 'Tricky Truck Words - Common Exception words'
- Practise pre- handwriting shapes and letter formation
- Complete ' Maths Home learning challenges'

Please keep looking at our weekly Class Dojo posts to inform you of key focuses covered each week.

We fully support the principle that young children learn through play, and by engaging in well-planned structured activities that provide meaningful, relevant and memorable learning experiences giving a strong understanding of basic concepts. Throughout the year, teaching in the reception classes provides a balance between planned/structured activities and child initiated activities within our indoor and outdoor classrooms. This curriculum gives the children a broad range of skills providing them with the foundations for future progress throughout school and life.



Contact Us

If you have any queries or questions regarding this topic, please feel free to come and talk to us:

Mrs Karen Cooper - Early Years Lead/Willow Class Teacher

Mrs Claire Grimes - Elm Class Teacher