



Animals and Plants
(alongside following the
children's ideas and
inspirations)

The Three Prime Areas

Personal Social and Emotional Development

The children will be given lots of opportunities to consider what is right and what is wrong and why. They will be encouraged to talk about their own feelings and consider how other people may feel in a range of situations. They will be encouraged to show consideration for the feelings of others through their own actions. There will be lots of opportunities for turn taking activities and learning as part of a group. There will be opportunities to take part in new and unfamiliar activities to help build children's self-confidence and ability to take change of routines in their stride.

Communication and Language

The children will be given lots of opportunities to listen to others in a range of situations. This will help them to develop the ability to shift their attention from one focus to another and listen when engaged in another activity. Through a range of speaking opportunities, they will learn to speak more clearly and audibly with confidence and control to show awareness of the listener. They will be encouraged to use past, present and future forms of language accurately when talking about experiences. They will be encouraged to answer 'how' and 'why' questions in response to their experiences.

Physical Development

The children will be encouraged to continue to manage their own hygiene and personal needs. They will be talking about their own health and ways that people can keep healthy and stay safe. They will take part in a range of activities to help develop greater control and co-ordination in large and small movements. They will be starting to take part in more formal handwriting activities.

Other Information:

Preparing for Year 1

Thank you for encouraging the children to come into the classroom independently in the morning. It has been great to see the children carrying book bags, lunch boxes and water bottles in to class by themselves.

Tapestry

Thank you for all of your positive feedback about Tapestry. We have enjoyed reading the comments that you have posted. We have enjoyed being able to share your child's development with you on a regular basis. Please continue to make comments and add your own posts.

Songs and Rhymes Session

After half term, we will be taking part in the 'Songs and Rhymes' project. The sessions run weekly for 20 minutes. During these times, the children will be welcoming next year's children into our school.

Suggestions to help your child at home...

- A child's vocabulary and their ability to communicate has a huge impact on their learning and achievement in both the long and short term. Making time to talk with children is very important. Make sure you give your child time to think and respond as they will often take longer to process language than adults.
- When practising the keywords that are sent home, set children the challenge of finding some words in the books you share
- When doing ordinary things like shopping at the supermarket, take the opportunity to develop children's mathematical skills and vocabulary, for example "I have 3 apples and you have 2 - what is 3 add 2?"

The Four Specific Areas

Mathematics

The children will take part in a range of activities that will develop their counting and number recognition skills. They will be learning to order the numbers to 20, comparing numbers and talking about which is more or less. They will apply their developing calculation skills to solve a range of practical problems involving addition, subtraction, doubling, halving and sharing. The children will take part in a range of measuring activities, looking closely at objects and containers and using language such as 'smaller' or 'heavier' to compare weight and capacity.

Literacy

The children will be given lots of opportunities to apply their developing phonics knowledge and keyword recognition skills to read a range of captions and sentences related to their learning. They will be talking about what they have read in order to deepen their understanding. In a range of writing activities, they will be encouraged to listen carefully to the words they want to write, think about what sounds they can hear and try to write them in the correct order.

Understanding the World

The children will talk about ways in which they are the same as or different to other people. They will use a range of technology for different purposes and talk about the ways technology is used both inside and outside of school. This term the children will be making lots of observations of different plants and animals and they will talk about how they are the same or different.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will take part in a range of musical activities and will be developing songs and dances in their own chosen ways. They will be exploring colour, texture, form and function in their art work. They will be encouraged to apply what they have learned when choosing and representing their own ideas with a range of media.