

Reception learning

Our topic this term is New Beginnings



The focus at the

start of our half term is minibeasts and watching them grow. We will learn about the life cycle of a caterpillar, as well as watching our own caterpillars and stick insects grow. There will be plenty of time spent outside taking time to explore our gardens. We will also be learning about how important the bees are! We will be exploring Coming to England as part of a whole school topic and the Queen's jubilee in weeks 4 and 5.

Below outlines how the topic links to the EYFS curriculum.

COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE Children listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions. Children make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding. The children will participate in small group, class, and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT Children will show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others and begin to regulate their behaviour accordingly. We will set and work towards simple goals, children demonstrating they are able to wait for what they want and control their immediate impulses when appropriate. Children will be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience, and perseverance in the face of challenge. We can explain the reasons for rules, know right from wrong and try to behave accordingly. Children will work and play cooperatively and take turns with others.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT Using the area children will negotiate space and obstacles safely, with consideration for themselves and others. They will demonstrate strength, balance and coordination when playing. Children will focus on holding a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing - using the tripod grip in almost all cases.

MATHS We will consolidate having a deep understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number. All children will demonstrate they can subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5. We are practising verbally counting beyond 20, recognising the pattern of the counting system.

LITERACY Children will have opportunities to demonstrate an understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary. We will consolidate being able to say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs. Our reading will focus on children reading words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending. The children will demonstrate they can write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD There will be activities that provide opportunities for children to talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society. Children will know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Through talk, children will be able to show they know some similarities and differences between

different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Enjoying the warmer weather, we will explore the natural world around us in our gardens and school grounds, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. Children will be able to talk about their own life and compare it to Floella Benjamin (*Coming to England* author).

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN In our art we will demonstrate we can now safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools, and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. Children will share their creations, explaining the process they have used. In the continuous provision children will invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher. As a class we love to sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs.

Help at home



The help and support you have given at home has been wonderful so far, thank you! Please continue to read with your child every day and mark it in their diary - we have some gold badges already on our reading rainbow, well done. There will be weekly activities set on education city, as well as next steps that will be sent home based on your child's individual learning. Please don't hesitate to ask any questions if you are unsure or need clarification.



CBeebies Storytime app



BookTrust website



TheSchoolRun website



FFT Success for All Phonics

Bedtime stories



We will be continuing with our bedtime story sacks. The children have free access to the story box and can change these when they are ready to on any day. We have also reminded children this is a job they can do themselves.

Dates for your diary

Monday 2nd May - School closed Bank Holiday

Tuesday 17th May - Story time. One adult per child invited in for a shared story time 3.00 - 3.15 (Letter to follow with further details)

Thursday 19th May - Story time. One adult per child invited in for a shared story time 3.00 - 3.15. (Letter to follow with further details)

Friday 27th May - Break up for Half term

Monday 6th June - Back to school

If you have any questions, please come and see us or contact Mrs Williams

r.williams@hayesmeadow.staffs.sch.uk