



Explorers Spring Second Half Term 2023 Newsletter

This half term our topics will be Forces, Books and Print, Transport, Dinosaurs and Spring

<p>Within these topics we will be learning about:</p>	<p>We will continue to send home picture books for the children to share with you at home. A member of staff will help your child change their book once a week – usually on their first session of the week. This should give you chance to share the book together several times during the week. Thank you to all parents who have been returning the books regularly. It would be lovely for more children to take part in this – they love choosing books to bring home.</p> <p>In our phonic sessions we will continue to reinforce the phonemes taught so far and from 13th March we will cover the new sounds m, d and g. The children will be taught to hear the phoneme (sound) at the beginning of words and to join in with blending simple words with those sounds. You can help at home by noticing when words begin with the sounds we have covered – so far we have covered s, a, t, p, i and n.</p> <p>On Wednesday 29th March I would like to do a trip to the local woods for the afternoon. Hopefully by then there will be plenty more signs of spring to see and the weather may be kind to us. We can only do trips like this if parents/grandparents are able to support us. We will be limited with the amount of children we can take without additional adults. All Nursery children will be invited along even if it is not their usual session but they would need an accompanying adult. More details will follow but I would aim to meet most of you with your children at the woods at around 1pm.</p>
<p>Communication and Language</p>	<p>Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens. Be able to talk about familiar books and be able to tell a long story. Understand ‘why’ questions e.g. ‘why did the caterpillar get so fat?’ Use a wider range of vocabulary. Be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions.</p>
<p>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</p>	<p>Select and use activities and resources, with help when needed. This helps them to achieve a goal they have chosen, or one which is suggested to them. Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of a community. Remember rules without needing an adult to remind them. Develop appropriate ways of being assertive. Talk with others to solve conflicts. Be increasingly independent with meeting their own care needs e.g. toileting and washing/drying their hands thoroughly.</p>
<p>Physical Development</p>	<p>Skip, hop, stand on one leg and hold a pose for a game like musical statues. Continue to develop their movement and balancing including in games lessons. Use large-muscle movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks including ‘wiggle time’. Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils. Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors. Be increasingly independent putting coats on and doing zips up.</p>
<p>Literacy</p>	<p>Understand the 5 key concepts about print – print has meaning, it can have different purposes, we read English from left to right and top to bottom, the names of different parts of a book and page sequencing. Develop their phonological awareness so that they can recognise words</p>

	with the same initial sound – reinforcing the phonemes s, a, t, p, i and n, and introducing m, d and g. Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.
Mathematics	Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes using informal and mathematical language: sides, corners, straight, flat, round. Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof. Combine shapes to make new ones – an arch, a bigger triangle. Describe a familiar route. Discuss routes and locations, using words like in front of and behind.
Understanding of the World	Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties. Explore how things work. Explore and talk about different forces they can feel. Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history. Continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people. Understand the key features in the life cycle of a plant and an animal. Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.
Expressive Arts and Design	Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises. Listen with increased attention to sounds. Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings (Classical music). Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas. Make imaginative 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits. Join different materials and explore different textures. Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them.

Every day is a special day but particularly Special Days this Half Term will be:	
World Book Day	2nd March
Mother's Day Sale	13 th March
Red Nose Day	17 th March
Trip to the woods	29 th March pm

