



Explorers Spring First Half Term 2023 Newsletter

This half term our topics will be Materials and Changes, People who help us and E-safety

Within these topics we will be learning about:	<p>We will be sending 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.</p> <p>We will be working together this half term on helping your child develop their independence with hand washing and putting their coats on, including turning sleeves the right way out and doing their own zips up.</p> <p>Each week we will be introducing a new sound in our phonics sessions. The children will be taught to hear the phoneme (sound) at the beginning of words and to blend words with those sounds.</p> <p>We will also be introducing 'wiggle time' which is an active way of helping children to make the large movements needed for future letter formation.</p>
Communication and Language	Be able to express a point of view. Start a conversation with an adult or a friend and continue it for many turns. Understand a question or instruction that has 2 parts, such as 'Get your coat and line up by the door'. Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Play with one or more other children, extending and elaborating play ideas. Understand gradually how others might be feeling. Talk about their feelings using words like happy, sad, angry, worried. Be increasingly independent with meeting their own care needs e.g. toileting and washing/drying their hands thoroughly.
Physical Development	Continue to develop their movement and balancing including in gymnastics 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. Be increasingly independent putting coats on and doing zips up.
Literacy	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 with the same initial sound - starting with s, a and t. Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing.

Mathematics	Recite numbers past 5. Show finger numbers up to 5. Link numerals and amounts up to 5. Develop fast recognition of up to 3 objects without having to count them individually (subitising). Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes. Discuss routes and locations, using words like in front of and behind.
Understanding of the World	Show interest in different occupations. Explore how things work. Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice. Continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people. Learn about e-safety.
Expressive Arts and Design	Create closed shapes with continuous lines and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness, fear. Listen with increased attention to sounds. Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings (Country music). Make imaginative 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits. Join different materials and explore different textures.

Every day is a special day but particularly Special Days this Half Term will be:	
International Lego Day	27 th January
Safer Internet Day	9 th February
Have a heart for HARP - non-uniform day	9 th February

