



SPRING 2 2018



EYFS Class
Themes &
Newsletter

Dear children and parents

The children have really bonded as a group, great friendships have been made and their care for each other and the new learning environment really comes across. The children's lovely personalities always put a smile on my face; we often laugh together at anything humorous.

Their 'can do' attitude often leaves me '**wowed**'; they are all working so hard and are really showing their great skills, knowledge and understanding not only in their independent work but also during our class discussions where I see them listening so well to what the peers have to say.

As we move through the last few weeks of the spring term and into the summer term my thoughts are in making sure that your child is doing and being the personal best that they can be! To achieve a "good level of development" your child must achieve at least the "expected level" within the three prime areas of learning: communication and language; physical development and personal, social and emotional development, as well as the early learning goals within the literacy and mathematics areas of learning. I will inform you about your child's development against the ELGs and the characteristics of their learning in the summer term. These go towards informing your child's year 1 teacher and support a smooth transition to key stage 1.

Your support in getting your child to school on time, reading with them consistently, and talking to them about what they are learning really helps meet this goal, so thank you for the great partnership we have!

Attached you will find a list of the words that your child will most commonly write and read in reception. They have been learning these throughout the year so far and you may find the list useful to have at home!

We are now working on Phase 4 letters and sounds this means that the children will consolidate the learning not only across all prior learning but also in reading and writing in words that have adjacent consonants e.g **stand/crust/crunch/twisting**.

The focus of our topic this half term is around 'People who help us to stay safe and healthy'. The children have begun to think about who helps them in their everyday lives and details of these special jobs. They have come with quite a list that include yourselves, doctors, the ambulance service; tow trucks, dentist and the fire brigade (to name a few). We will be reading related information books and interviewing people who help us at school.

If your job involves helping others and you would like to come and to talk to the children about this, **please** volunteer. The children have been so great at listening to visitor talks and asking and answering questions.

Literacy

Phonics
ee ur ow
wh y au



Reading

The children have been 'Perfect Partners' during our morning paired reading sessions. And they will continue to take part in guided group reading sessions as well as 1:1 reading time.

Here the children will:

- read and understand simple sentences.
- use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately.
- read common irregular words.

And demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.

Writing

The children have lots of opportunities to 'Show me what they know'. They also write about what they have read during their 'Perfect Partner' reading time every morning. And they know that I love to see what they have done during their 'play' in the continuous provision so they often plan what they are going to do and draw and write about it afterwards, This has worked very well as the children are building their confidence in applying their writing skills independently.

The children will make their own information books, booklets, posters and write letters for different audiences around our main theme. Here the children will needs to:

- use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds.
- write some irregular common words.
- write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. The expectation is that some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.

Mathematic Development

Number

Teaching will focus on subtraction, addition and solving problems, including doubling, halving and sharing. The children regularly and actively join in counting forwards and backwards in 1's beyond 20 and are becoming very proficient at counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. Again, the children are becoming enthusiastic in 'Showing me what they know' and are following the own mathematical interests during their 'play' in the continuous provision, I'm



very proud of their growing maturity in learning. Other learning expectation are that the children will learn to:

- count reliably with numbers from one to 20
- place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number
- Use quantities and objects to add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer.

Communication & Language

Knowledge & Understanding



Speaking

The children will be expected to express themselves effectively- showing awareness of listeners' needs. They use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about ideas or events that have happened or are to happen in the future connected to our main theme 'People who help us'

People and communities

The children are already showing the knowledge around our theme 'People who help us'. This area of learning is linked to Speaking (above). Observations will be used to assess the children's:

- talk around past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members.
- Sensitivity around what their peers say.
- Knowledge about what is similar and different between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.

Technology

The children will begin to visit the ICT suite to interact with age-appropriate computer software. I would like to also get to know your child more in this area of learning and I sense that they are perhaps are VERY Tech-Savvy! But I would like to know more. Could you please take the time to fill in the questionnaire attached to this letter and ALSO send in any evidence of your child showing the Technology skills, for example:

- using a range of technology at home and in different places
- AND
- Evidence of them selecting and using technology for particular purpose
- This could see your child not just meet a Good Level of Learning in this are but **EXCEEDING!**

Expressive Arts and Design



We have some very innovative children in Yew class! The children will be given open ended invitations to express their creativity! And show what they know through:

- using what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes.
- representing their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.

Something to try at home that will help your child in school . . .

When your child has accurately found the answer to an everyday mathematical problem encourage your child to talk about how they got to that answer and expect them to explain using some mathematical

language e.g I had 20 peas and a ate 5 so I knew that 5 less then 20 is 15! THEN ask is they can draw a picture to show someone else (Me, nanny, anyone) then give your mathematical genius lots of praise!