



## Autumn 2021 Early Years Newsletter and Learning Journey

A very warm *welcome to our Nursery and Reception children! We hope you have enjoyed the Summer break and are excited for the term ahead. This newsletter will outline our topics, including the learning pathways and objectives, for the Autumn term.*

We will begin this academic year by getting to know everyone in our new class through our topic **All About Me**. We will enjoy different stories every week including, What I Like About Me, We Are All Different and We've All Got Bellybuttons! As well as, getting to know our rules, routines and thinking carefully about how to be good friends, share resources and take turns. After the October half term, we will be moving onto the topic, **Superheroes/People Who Help Us**. During the school day, your child will learn through play, by adults modelling, by observing each other and through adult-led guided learning and direct teaching.

**Changes to the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework:** We will be following the new EY framework to support the Department of Education to improve outcomes at age 5, particularly in early language and literacy and reduce workload such as unnecessary paperwork, so teachers can spend more time with the children in their care. Please see DfE for more information.

### PRIME AREAS

#### Personal Social and Emotional Development

Throughout our daily practice and within our PSHE sessions the children will have the opportunity to express their feelings and be encouraged to consider the feelings of others. We will explore scenarios to help us think carefully about how to solve conflicts, build constructive and respectful relationships and follow our classroom rules.

#### Communication and Language

We will be enjoying and engaging with lots of different stories and non-fiction books during storytimes and within our class reading area. The children will be encouraged to listen carefully to rhymes, songs and new vocabulary. Through modelling and support, the children should articulate and connect ideas and thoughts to develop their sentences.

#### Physical Development

We will continue to develop our fundamental movement skills, balancing, riding (trikes and bikes) and ball skills. As well as practising our fine motor skills so that we can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Within Health & Self-Care, the children should become increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs alongside making healthy choices.

### SPECIFIC AREAS



#### Mathematics: Knowledge, Skills and Understanding

##### Reception:

- I can count objects by saying the numbers in order and matching one number to each item.
- I can estimate and guess how many there might be before counting.
- I can join in with counting songs and number rhymes. I listen to and enjoy stories that involve counting.
- I can use the following vocabulary 'more than', 'less than', 'fewer', 'the same as' and 'equal to'.
- I can distribute items evenly from a group.
- I can select, rotate and manipulate shapes in order to develop spatial reasoning skills.

##### Nursery:

- I can recite numbers past 5 and show 'finger numbers' up to 5.
- I can say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5.
- I can join in with counting songs and number rhymes. I listen to and enjoy stories that involve counting.
- I enjoy experimenting with symbols, marks and numerals.
- I can talk about and select shapes appropriately to explore their properties and positions.

#### Literacy: Knowledge, Skills and Understanding

##### Reception:

- I can spot rhymes, count/clap syllables in a word and recognise words with the same initial sound.
- I am beginning to read individual letters by saying the sound.
- I am beginning to blend sounds into words, so that I can read CVC words containing known letter-sound correspondences.
- I ask questions about stories.
- I repeat words/phrases and new vocabulary from stories.
- I enjoy my favourite stories and share these with others.
- I am beginning to form lowercase letters correctly.
- I can copy my full name from a name label and I am beginning to spell words by identifying the sounds.

##### Nursery:

- I can join in with songs, rhymes, copying sounds and rhythms.
- I can say some of the words in songs and rhymes and copy finger movements, gestures and actions.
- I can sing songs and say rhymes independently.
- I enjoy sharing books with an adult and pay attention to stories, responding to the pictures and words.
- I enjoy my favourite books and seek them out to share with others.
- I can add some marks to my drawings and give meaning to these for example "that says dog".
- I can make marks on my pictures to stand for my name.



### Understanding the World

We will use our topic learning to explore 'past and present', 'people, culture and communities' and 'the natural world'. In our continuous provision, the children will have a variety of play opportunities to talk about their knowledge relating to these areas as well as direct teaching time. During 'All About Me', the children will be able to talk about members of their family and community, and name and describe people who are familiar to them.

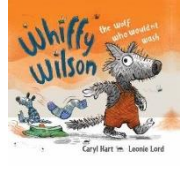
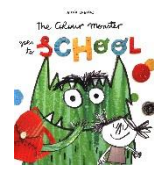
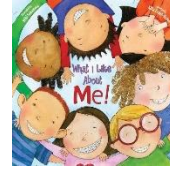
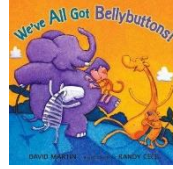
**Religious Education:** We will be thinking about the question 'why is the world so important to Christians?' We will also build our knowledge of Bible Stories and explore the Christian Faith through the adventures of Puddles (the cat).

**Collective Worship:** The Reception children will take part in daily worship when we will gather, engage and respond to key questions linked to our school core values; forgiveness, trust, hope, friendship, honesty and love.

### Expressive Arts & Design

In our creative areas, the children will be able to explore different materials and artistic effects to develop their own ideas and feelings. We will also be teaching the children how to use resources and tools appropriately, so they can use these skills to refine and develop their own creations. All the children will do their self-portrait to display in our school hall and create their own superhero cape and explosions!

**Music:** We will be using the Charanga Music School Unit titled 'Me!' to engage the children in nursery rhymes and action songs.



### Story of the Week

Reading to children is the best way of encouraging them to love books and reading. Every week, to inspire the children, we will use a different story linked to our topic and read this multiple times to enable the children to join in with the actions, expressions and hear and use new vocabulary. We will plan from these stories, but also pursue the children's own interests during our learning. In our reading area, we will continue to display our Pie Corbett Reading Spine books, which the children will become increasingly familiar with during their time in Early Years. When they know the story well, they will want to 'read' it over and over again!

### Routines

When the children arrive, they come into the cloakroom, organise their belongings and then go to the toilets to wash their hands. They are then ready to begin their morning/afternoon funky finger challenges, until it is time to go to our key groups.

During the sessions, the children will participate in adult-led group phonics, whole class story/discussions, mathematics activities, snack time and will have child-initiated learning time in our indoor/outdoor continuous provision.

At the end of their session, the children sit quietly to reflect on their day and say the home time prayer. They are then asked to wash their hands and organise their belongings to go home.

### Commando Joe's

We will be facing our weekly Commando Joe Missions discovering the following R.E.S.P.E.C.T traits -

- R - Resilience
- E - Empathy
- S - Self-Awareness
- P - Positivity
- E - Excellence
- C - Communication
- T - Teamwork



### Home Reading

The children will receive a school story book to share at home. Please write in your child's home school diary so we know when this has been read. Book changing days will continue to be **Monday & Friday**.

When we feel Reception children are competent with their Read Write Inc Set 1 sounds they will receive a sound blending book, or simple phonics reading book tailored to their level of phonics knowledge. Your child should read 3 times per week at home and will be listened to in our daily Read Write Inc sessions and during 1-1 reading. It is extremely beneficial to read the books a few times to encourage fluency.

### Partnership with Parents

To enable children to thrive in the early years it is important for school and parents to work in partnership. We will share information with you through Home School Diaries, school newsletters, weekly EY newsletters (via Tapestry Memos section), text messages and notices. The Friday EY newsletter will also inform parents about the weekly learning, which can support parents to continue this learning at home. Parents can liaise with staff through Home School Diaries or alternatively can call the office to schedule a call from the class teacher. The office will also inform parents about the future opportunities to discuss children's progress.

### Reminders

**Timings:** Nursery 8.45 – 11.45 am Reception 9.05 – 3.10pm

If you are dropping off or picking up two or more siblings, please follow the timings of your youngest child and if you have problems coordinating with other schools, please just come and see us so we can help.

**Pick up:** If your child is being picked up from school by someone who is not on their 'who am I going home with' list or we have not met before please ring the office to make us aware of this.

**Uniform:** Uniform lists are on the school websites along with our providers. Please ensure your child's clothing is labelled and provide them with a named pair of wellington boots for school use.

**Snack/Lunch:** Please ensure we have plenty of notice if you wish to change your child's milk/snack or lunch options.

**Medical:** If there are any changes to your child's medical information, please ensure we know about this as soon as possible.

**Physical Education:** Children should come to school in their PE Kit on a Thursday. They will take part in a PE lesson with Mrs Robinson.

*Here's to a happy, healthy and successful Autumn Term.*

*Mrs Robinson*