

## Physical Development

The children will continue to have access to the outdoor area at all times to promote active playing and learning, so please ensure your child **brings a coat** to school **everyday**. Weekly lessons will include developing action rhymes, large movement skills, an awareness of space they are working in and an awareness of the effects of exercise on the body. The children will also develop fine motor control by using small world toys, construction sets, threading and scissor skills as part of their cross-curricular learning. PE lessons this term will include keeping fit, dance and gymnastics.

## Communication, Language & Literacy

We will continue with our phonics lessons and keywords every day. Please keep an eye on **Its Learning** for updated lists each week, so you can help your child at home too. We will begin to learn simple digraphs later this term, such as 'ch', 'sh' and 'th,' as well as embedding a secure understanding of how to blend CVC words (eg: hen / dog) and CCVC / CVCC words (eg: drum / help). The children will continue to read a variety of texts during their small group read sessions each week, as well as their individual reading. It is really important that the children are not only able to begin to read simple sentences but they are also able to demonstrate an understanding of the text by answering 'how' and 'why' questions, as well as giving their own thoughts and opinions. Our topics this term will enable opportunities for writing for a purpose, such as writing lists or letters. As always, it is vital that your child develops good listening and speaking skills, as this underpins their entire learning.

## Expressive Arts and Design

All our creative work, including dance, music, art and craft and imaginative play, is linked to our topics. We will continue to sing songs, which often relate to other curriculum areas, as well as using our voices and percussion instruments to explore pitch, different sounds and matching movements to music. The role-play area will be linked to our theme of Traditional Tales, including the Three Bears' cottage, as well as transforming into a Chinese restaurant in February. We will endeavor to use different media and materials in the craft area to make things related to the Traditional Tales, such as props for acting out the stories and painting pictures.

## Religious Education and Worship

This term, our values are 'Courage' followed by 'Forgiveness'. Our weekly RE lessons will continue with the theme of Incarnation, where we will conclude the story of the birth of Jesus. After half term, we will look at the theme of Salvation, as we approach Easter time.



## Traditional Tales



## At Home

Please continue to support your child's learning by hearing them read at least *three times per week*, as well as writing for different purposes, such as shopping lists, letters etc... Engage in practical mathematical activities, for example counting out toys and adding or subtracting amounts. Look for 2D and 3D shapes in the environment and use language to describe them. As always, do feel free to share with me any exciting learning your child does at home with you either by replying on **Parent Share** or you are welcome to bring photos or pieces of work your child has done at home to put into their Learning Journey folder at school. Thank you for your continued support in your child's learning this year.

## Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Much of the children's development in this important area of learning is explored through class circle times. The children then have opportunities to develop and enhance what they have learnt in their play. Units this half term are 'Identities and Diversity' and 'Me and My World'. After half term the unit is 'My Body and Growing up'. We will begin to understand and value what our bodies can do, recognise similarities and differences between boys and girls, understand ways to look after our body and keep clean and think about how growing up makes us feel.

## Maths

- Count reliably with numbers 0-20 and place in order, saying which number is one more or one less from a given number.
- Estimate how many objects they can see and check by counting them.
- In practical activities and discussion, beginning to use the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting.
- Begin to use mathematical names for 'solid' 3D shapes and mathematical terms to describe them.
- Use familiar objects and common shapes to create and recreate patterns and build models.
- Use everyday language related to time.
- Begin to use everyday language related to money.

## Understanding the World

Our topic for this term is *Traditional Tales*, including The 3 Little Pigs, Goldilocks and the 3 Bears, The Gingerbread Man and the Enormous Turnip. We will explore similarities and differences, patterns and change, through practical activities, such as cooking. In ICT we will begin to use laptops and iPads to enhance our learning across the curriculum. We will also use programmable toys (Bee Bots) to explore directions and movement. In February, we will enjoy a topic week for the Chinese New Year and explore different family customs and traditions. As Spring approaches, we will use our senses to explore the changes in our outdoor environment.