

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 dance, parachute games 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, as well as using our voices and percussion instruments to explore pitch, different sounds and matching movements to music. In the first half term, the role-play area will become a Travel Agents, as well as transforming into a Chinese restaurant in February. We will endeavor to use junk modelling to plan and create things linked to our topics, such as a boat which will float or a Chinese lantern, by exploring suitable media and materials. After half term, we will explore colours and patterns in our topic on Animals and develop introducing a storyline or narrative into our imaginative play.

Religious Education and Worship

This term, our values are **Hope** followed by **Justice**. Our weekly RE lessons will continue with the theme of Incarnation, where we will continue to learn about how Jesus grew into a man and look at some of the miracles he performed. After half term, we will look at the theme of Salvation, as we approach Easter time.



Journeys and Transport



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 finding one more or one less. 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. This term is all about 'Health and Safer Living'. This will include: understanding our bodies (including describing and naming external body parts), keeping clean, how people care for me, growing up, assessing risk (eg: sun, water, fire and E-Safety rules), being safe out and about, personal safety, road safety and a basic introduction to drug education (understanding what medicines are and identifying harmful substances around the home).

Maths

- Count reliably with numbers 0-20 and begin to order and sequence them.
- Estimate how many objects they can see and check by counting them.
- Say which number is one more or one less from a given number up to 20.
- 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 and money.
- Order two or three items by length, height, weight and capacity.

Understanding the World

Our topic for the first half term is *Journeys*, which includes looking at different modes of transport. Each week, we will focus on a different journey by land, sea, air and in space, through storytelling and fun learning activities. We will also use programmable toys to explore directions and movement and use laptops and iPads to develop skills in following instructions. In February, we will enjoy a topic week for the Chinese New Year and explore different family customs and traditions. After half term, our topic is Animals, where we will explore different habitats such as the jungle, a farm, woodland and the sea. As Spring approaches, we will use our senses to explore the changes in our outdoor environment.