

Autumn 2016

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

We can't believe how fast our first term has gone! Everyone has settled in so well, we have been having so much fun and learning lots. The next half term is going to get very busy so please make sure you look carefully at the calendar dates.



Julia Donaldson

Our focus stories are The Gruffalo, A squash and a squeeze, Stickman, Monkey Puzzle and The Nativity

Prime areas of learning

Communication and Language



This term we will continue to use 'Colourful Semantics' to help with oracy. Colourful semantics is a colour coded system to help children understand and build sentences. Using this has already helped many with their spoken skills and will help them when they come to write sentences later in the year. The whole school has a huge focus on oracy this year, and is fundamental in communication, reading and writing.

PSED



In Jigsaw this term we will be looking carefully at ourselves. We will focus on the things that we are good at, and identify what makes us special. We will also be thinking about our families and our homes, what it means to be a kind friend and how to stand up for ourselves.

We will also continue to focus on our emotions. Talking about things that make us sad, angry, loved, calm and happy.

Physical development



The children will have opportunities to demonstrate balance, strength, fluency of movement and coordination. They will be encouraged to take part in activities where they have to adjust speed when running, jump off objects and land successfully. Some children will take part in daily dough disco sessions to help strengthen fine motor muscles in their hands and fingers.

Specific areas of learning

Literacy-phonics



This term we will be learning even more tricky words and phonemes. Listed below are the phonemes and tricky words (TW) the children will be learning over the coming weeks
03/11 - ff, ll, ss, j TW - put, pull, full, as
10/11 - v, w, x, y TW - and, has, his, her
17/11 - z, qu, ch TW - go, no, to, into
24/11 - sh, th, ng, nk TW - she, he, of
01/12 - plurals/review TW - we, me, be
08/12 - Review week
15/12 - Assessment week

Literacy-Reading

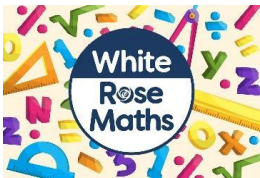




The children have started reading in class this term. We read as a whole class, each class having five reading groups. Your children should all have their Collins Hub logins stuck inside their reading diaries. If you find this is missing please speak to your class teacher and they will amend this. We read the same book up to four times a week, each 'read' has a different focus e.g decoding, comprehension and prosody.

Literacy-writing



This term we have started our formal handwriting lessons. These take place four times a week and we follow the Little Wandle Handwriting Scheme. To start with we will be practising patterns such as horizontal, vertical and wavy lines before moving on to letter writing. The children will continue to have writing lessons in small groups, focusing on segmenting CVC words related to our topic.

<div>Maths</div> 	<div>Understanding the world</div> 	<div>Expressive art and design</div> 
<p>Our first maths unit is, 'it's me 1, 2, 3' where we will be exploring different representations, subitising and representing numbers. We will then explore circles and triangles, comparing, looking at different sizes and orientations and noticing them in the environment. Our next topic focuses on the numbers 4 and 5, subitising, representing and then finding one more and one less. We finish the term by looking at shapes with four sides. Identifying a variety of four sided shapes and combining them to make other four sided shapes.</p>	<p>We will have lots of opportunities this term to celebrate and learn about significant events e.g Remembrance day, Children in Need, bonfire night and and Christmas. We will be having a minute silence on the 11th of November at 11am, and will find out why Remembrance day is important to us all.</p> <p>We will be looking closely at how our school environment has changed over the years, exploring electrical and non electrical light sources. As we get closer to Christmas we will be discussing how we celebrate and how our celebrations differ or are similar.</p>	<p>Our role play area has been changed to a Gruffalo Cafe this term, the children will be able to sell Gruffalo crumble, owl ice cream, roasted fox and scrambled snake. They will have opportunities to work together to be customers and shop keepers.</p> <p>In art we are exploring different techniques to create gruffalos, poppies and fireworks. We will be printing, drawing, painting and collaging different scenes using our topic books e.g a snowy scene for Stick man, a woodland scene for The Gruffalo.</p>

PE and Forest School

Every week, the children have one P.E session with our sports coaches, Coach Jordan, Coach James and Coach Grace.

They will start to look at athletics to teach them some key skills and techniques around running, jumping and throwing. We will begin to look at using some equipment such as foam javelins, shotputs and relay batons to use all of their athletics abilities!

P.E kit:

- ✓ White t-shirt
- ✓ Black or navy jogging bottoms (winter)
- ✓ Black or navy shorts (summer)
- ✓ Plain dark coloured hoodie or sweatshirt
- ✓ Trainers
- ✓ Hair tied back
- ✓ Earrings out or taped

Forest School is led by Mrs Baker.

We will begin Forest School this term by remembering the fire circle rules, helping to build a fire, then use the fire to make 'Toasted Fox!' Don't worry, it is just bread cut with a fox cutter.



The second part of the term we will be using tools to make a christmas decoration. The children will be using real saws and drills under the guidance of Mrs Baker. They will learn the correct, safe way of using the equipment.

Forest school kit:

- ✓ Waterproof trousers / wetsuit
- ✓ Wellies/walking boots
- ✓ Legs **must** be covered due to ticks (leggings or joggers)

Forest School week beginning dates:

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
3th Nov	10th Nov	17th Nov
24th Nov	1st December	8th December

Coming up...



3rd November - School reopens for the new term
10th & 12th November - Parents evening
11th November - Remembrance day
14th November - Children In Need - Non uniform day
17th November - Road Safety Week
21st November - Be Bright Be Seen day
24th November - Inset day
25th November - Year R Stay and Play
5th December - Christmas Fair 5-7pm
18th December - Year R Christmas Play 9:30am and 2.00pm
19th December - Carols on the playground 2-2:30pm End of Term
5th January - Start of new term

Home Learning



Please continue to watch the Phonics videos that we upload each week, and post any phonics games you play on to Tapestry.

Now that everyone has their Collins Hub login you will be able to access books on the app. Books will be allocated on a weekly basis and are relevant to the level your child is reading at in school.

As we are heading towards the colder months, can you please encourage your child to practise putting on gloves and doing up their own coats. We will also be working on these important skills at school.

Contact us



If there is anything you wish to discuss with us regarding the information on this newsletter; or if you have any further queries or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

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How can you help?



Thank you for uploading pictures and videos to Tapestry, the children absolutely love sharing these with the rest of their class. It is an excellent way to build oracy and self confidence.

As we are acknowledging Remembrance day, we would appreciate any photos or videos that yourselves or any relatives would be able to share with us. Do you have family in the army, or who used to be in the army? Do you have relatives that remember the war and what it was like?

Please come and speak to any of us if you have any questions or if you would like any additional information about any of the areas of learning.

Many thanks
EYFS team