

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

I can't believe we are halfway through the year already. We have a very busy five weeks ahead of us, fitting in World Book Day, Mothers Day, Stay and Play and Easter.

This half term we continue to focus on developing the children's oracy skills, helping them to become confident speakers and careful listeners. Through class discussions and group work, the children will practise speaking in full sentences, using new vocabulary and listening to others.



People Who Help Us/ Dinosaurs and Easter

Prime areas of learning

Communication and Language



PSED



Physical development



In our topic *People Who Help Us*, we will watch a video about a day in the life of a firefighter and explore non-fiction books about different community roles. The children will ask and answer questions and share their ideas.

The children will practise using past and present tense when talking about what dinosaurs did and how animals live today. We will explore which modern animals are related to dinosaurs and which animals lived alongside them.

The children will learn about their bodies and how to stay healthy. They will explore the importance of being active, and making healthy food choices. We will discuss good sleep routines, hand washing, and ways to stay well. The children will also learn about safe adults and what to do if they are approached by someone they don't know. They will develop the skills to notice how their body feels, make simple healthy choices, and take responsibility for keeping themselves safe and healthy.

The children will continue to build their gross and fine motor skills through a variety of activities. Outdoors, they will practise climbing, balancing, and moving in different ways, as well as lifting and carrying heavier or larger objects, helping to develop strength, coordination, and confidence. Fine motor skills will be developed through focused activities such as handwriting, with a particular focus on forming capital letters correctly, cutting with scissors, and manipulating dough.

Specific areas of learning

Literacy-phonics



Literacy-Reading



Literacy-writing



Phonics lessons will cover;
 Week 1 - reviewing Phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs.
 Week 2 - review Phase 3; er, air. Words with double letters and longer words.
 Week 3 - words with two or more digraphs.
 Week 4 - longer words, words ending in -ing, compound words
 Week 5 - words with -es at end /z/ and assessment week.

We will continue to read at least three times a week. These books will be shared via the Collins Hub app. Children will explore non-fiction books to learn new facts and build their knowledge. They will take part in reading activities where they match sentences to pictures, helping them to understand how information is organised and how text relates to images.

We will use Colourful Semantics to help them build clear sentences by thinking about who is in the sentence, what they are doing and any extra details. The children will practise saying their captions out loud before writing, helping them to rehearse and organise their ideas. They will also work on putting words in the correct order to make a simple phrase or sentence.

<p style="text-align: center;">Maths</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Understanding the world</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Expressive art and design</p> 
<p>This half term, the children will be learning about numbers, shapes, patterns, and time. They will practise sequencing events and using words like <i>fast</i>, <i>faster</i>, <i>fastest</i> which will help them understand the order of events and develop a sense of time. They will build numbers 9 and 10 using a ten frame to understand how numbers are made. The children will also explore 3D shapes, learning to recognise and describe them, and create repeating patterns such as ABC, ABCD, AABB and AAB. These activities help develop early number skills, shape awareness, and understanding of patterns.</p>	<p>We will learn about palaeontologists and how they discover fossils. The children will explore carnivores and herbivores, matching dinosaurs to the foods they eat. We will also learn about the origins of food, matching foods to where they come from, and discuss questions such as, “<i>Could dinosaurs go to the supermarket?</i>” In RE, we will learn about Easter, the signs of new life in spring, and how it is celebrated within Christianity and around the world. We will also learn about a significant person from the past, Florence Nightingale, and why she is remembered for helping others.</p>	<p>This half term, the children will be taking part in practical creative activities that help build their skills and confidence. They will cut, tear, fold and stick a range of papers and fabrics, using different materials to make their own creations. Children will also create collaboratively, sharing ideas and working together to make products inspired by stories, existing items, or their own interests and experiences. Once finished, the children will share their creations with others, explaining what they wanted to make and the techniques and tools they used. These activities support fine motor skills, creativity, communication and teamwork.</p>

PE and Forest School

<p>Every week, the children have one P.E session with our sports coaches, Coach Jordan, Coach James, Coach Grace and Coach Charlotte.</p> <p>This term our P.E day will be a Tuesday</p> <p>Net and wall games – To use extension with control and coordination to send/balance a beanbag or a ball to a target. They will also start to play team games using the skills that they have practiced with the tennis racket.</p>	<p>P.E kit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ White t-shirt ✓ Black or navy shorts (summer) ✓ Plain dark coloured hoodie or sweatshirt ✓ Plimsolls (for indoor P.E) ✓ Trainers ✓ Hair tied back ✓ Earrings out and all jewellery removed
<p>Forest School is led by Mrs Baker.</p>  <p>In Forest School this term, we are excited to make use of our new and improved fire pit shelter, which will allow us to do more cooking over the fire. We will also be building more dens and shelters, following on from the children’s interests last term, developing their teamwork and problem-solving skills. As spring arrives, we will be exploring the outdoor environment and looking for signs of seasonal change, helping the children to observe and talk about the natural world around them.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We are also hoping we get better weather this term!</p>	<p>Forest school kit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Waterproof trousers / wetsuit ✓ Wellies/walking boots ✓ Legs must be covered due to ticks (leggings or joggers) <p>All three classes will go out every week come rain or shine, unless the weather is dangerous. Please make sure your child has suitable clothing otherwise they may have to remain at school.</p>

Coming up...



23rd Feb - First day back after half term holiday.
2nd March - Parents Evening
4th March - Parents Evening
6th March - World Book Day
10th March - 2.15pm - Stay and Play
27th March - 2.30pm finish - Last day of term

Home Learning



At home, please support your child by encouraging lots of talk and reading for pleasure linked to our topics: dinosaurs, people who help us, and spring/Easter. Spend time sharing and re-reading favourite stories that link to our topics such as Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs by Ian Whybrow or The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle, talking about the characters and what might happen next. Encourage your child to speak in full sentences, retell stories, role play different jobs, and describe signs of spring. You could also practise phonics sounds, write simple labels or cards, and count or sort everyday objects to reinforce learning in a fun, practical way.

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?



We would love to celebrate the diversity of our families by learning how you celebrate Easter at home. If you celebrate, please share photos, objects, or come in to talk about your traditions. For example, you might attend a church service, take part in an Easter egg hunt, decorate eggs, share a special meal, exchange chocolate eggs, or spend time with family. Sharing these experiences helps us develop our speaking and listening skills while learning about different traditions and celebrations.

As part of our topic on People Who Help Us, we would love to invite parents or family members to support our learning. If you work in a role that helps others in the community – such as healthcare, emergency services, education, transport, retail, postal services or any other helpful profession – we would be delighted if you could come in to talk to the children about your job. Sharing real-life experiences helps develop the children's understanding of the world and supports their speaking and listening skills. Please let us know if you would be willing to help.

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