

Rabbit class

Spring Newsletter: 2020

Communication & Language



This term we will start off with stories by Julia Donaldson followed by 'Traditional Tales'. We will be listening to lots of stories, discussing the characters and settings and asking and answering different questions about what we have read and understood.

To help your child at home you could:

 Read a selection of fiction and non-fiction books to your child and encourage him/her to ask questions and make relevant comments.

Physical Development



We will be using the outdoor classroom regularly and will enjoy being active in the fresh air playing with balls, hoops, wheeled toys, sand, water, construction and other PE equipment whatever the weather. We will be learning about the importance of keeping fit and healthy. Please ensure your child has a waterproof hooded coat. Wellies and all-in-ones can be sent in to change into and please remember water bottles need to be brought in every day. We will also be continuing to practise using a pencil effectively to form recognisable letters and will be working hard to try and ensure all our letters are correctly formed. PE kits should be worn to school on a Wednesday morning ready for our PE lesson first thing in the morning. Please make sure your child remembers to bring their school uniform with them to change into after PE, thank you.

To help your child at home you could:

- Encourage your child to form all letters correctly.
- Use playdough to help children build up their finger muscles.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development



We will be working alongside our classmates to practise taking turns and listening to each other's ideas. We will be taking part in circle time activities to continually remind ourselves how we follow British Values, share our thoughts and feelings about how to behave appropriately and how to always be kind, thoughtful and helpful to each other. We will be thinking about the things we do best and telling others what we feel confident about and proud of.

To help your child at home you could:

• Discuss with your child what he/she is proud of and tell them what you are proud of them for too. Share these thoughts with the teachers by adding comments and observations on Tapestry to add to your child's Learning Journal.

Literacy



During the first half term we will read a range of stories written by Julia Donaldson, starting with 'The Gruffalo'. In the second half term we will read 'The Jolly Postman and other Traditional Tales'. We will also look at books by different authors and non-fiction texts about plants and animals as we prepare for Spring time. We will be taking part in guided reading activities and discussing in small groups what we have read and understood in each text. We will be continuing to work on Phase 3 of Letters and Sounds to use our phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately. We will also be working really hard with our writing again using our phonic knowledge to write down every sound we can hear in each word to write words, lists and captions.

To help your child at home, you could:

 Encourage your child to write shopping lists at home writing down every sound heard.

• Look through your child's 'Home Learning' book regularly and identify words containing each sound. Can you make a list of words containing each sound?

Please add any comments and observations to Tapestry.

Numeracy



We will be learning to estimate and count objects and actions using the words 'more' and 'fewer' to compare two sets. We will also be taking part in lots of practical addition and subtraction activities and games finding totals by counting all the items in two sets. We will be working out the answers to mathematical problems and finding one more and one less. We will also be comparing and ordering items by length or height. We will be using play shops/restaurants and cafés to practise using everyday language related to money and to give the right amount of money and check our change! We will also be explaining our reasoning to others.

To help your child at home, you could:

- Help them to make accurate estimates about totals of different household items (eg. pasta shapes, grapes, raisins in a bowl). Can they count out a given number from the bowl? Can they show you one more and one less? Can they carry out additions and subtractions? Can they share equally between 2, 3, 4, 5 people/teddies etc.?
- Can they recognise different coins and tell you how many pennies are in each? Can they find totals of small amounts of coins?

Add your observations to Tapestry and they will be used in your child's overall assessment alongside observations made within school. Sometimes you will see your child do things at home that we might not get to see them do in school and so any information on your child's progress is very valuable.

Understanding the World



We will be learning about Chinese New Year and different customs and traditions as well as thinking about the Easter story and new life in the spring time. We will be taking part in various science experiments and looking closely at similarities, patterns and change. We will also be using ICT to help our learning by using the computers, interactive whiteboards, i-pads, talking tins and cameras for different purposes.

To help your child at home, you could

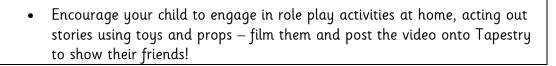
• Talk to your child about the changes they notice happening in their environment as the seasons begin to alter, maybe even taking some photographs of your observations (eg. bulbs/blossom growing/lambs in fields).

Expressive Arts & Design



We will be enjoying being imaginative in our role play area which will be a Chinese Restaurant to celebrate Chinese New Year, followed by a post office. We will decide together what we want it to become in the second half term following the children's own interests. We will have many opportunities to explore and use different media and materials in the Reception classrooms, the Creation Station, messy play area and outdoor area. We might choose to take part in painting, crafts, cooking, model making, construction, music, dance, small world and other creative activities linked to the current topic. We will also have opportunities to sing songs and explore making sounds using various musical instruments.

To help your child at home, you could:





Remember to please add any observations and photographs you would like to your child's online Learning Journal via Tapestry!