

The members of the Nursery Team would like to wish all the children, parents and carers of Rainbow Class a Happy New Year and a very warm welcome back to school. We will focus on Toys for the first half of the term and Favourite Stories for the second half.

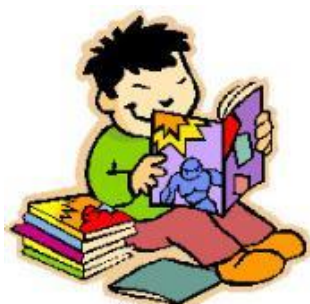
Personal, Social and Emotional Development



The children are now more settled at school and enjoy their time playing and learning with their friends. We place a strong emphasis in nurturing high self esteem in the children and fostering a caring attitude and respect towards each other. Circle time is carried out weekly which gives the children an opportunity to talk in small groups and to express how they feel. Sharing and taking turns at this age is very difficult for the children and they need lots of support and guidance to achieve this.

Communication, Language and literacy

We will be focusing on core text stories that tie in with our topics and encourage enjoyment of reading by offering a range of interesting picture stories and reference books. We will support the children's language development and understanding by using 2D magnetic and 3D props to support stories. These help the children to link words and story lines with specific pictures and encourage the children to retell the stories independently. By looking at non-fiction books and during group discussions the children will become aware that



information can be found in books. The children will take part in making class books, making contributions of drawings and including photographs. We scribe what they say to accompany their work. Many of the children really enjoy having their language written on paper and learn so much about writing in this way. Some children are enjoying 'writing' for themselves and adults will support and encourage correct letter formation when appropriate. The children will continue to learn the letter sounds as a whole class and throughout the day in smaller groups and individually.

'Let's Think' is a whole school initiative that develops thinking and speaking and listening. Over the term the children will take part in these activities working in small groups. Some of the activities have a mathematical element to them but they mainly support their thought processes and understanding.

Speaking and listening plays a huge part in the delivery of our curriculum. Language is embedded in everything we do and need all of the children to speak confidently and clearly in English as soon as possible. If you have any concerns regarding your child's language development please speak to Jeanette.

Physical Development

Daily access to the outside area will enable the children to take part in more active play. The children will have the opportunity to make use of the existing and new resources to support their achievements in meeting the developmental aims.



Physical Education sessions in the

Sports Hall include the use of soft play equipment and small apparatus and take place on Tuesday afternoons. The children do not need to wear any special clothing but we suggest that the girls wear trousers or leggings rather than dresses, skirts and tights. Activities to develop fine motor skills, which enable correct use of scissors and pencils are available daily, such as playdough and exploring tactile materials.

Mathematical Development

The children will continue to learn about number and shape daily, through a wide range of activities, inside and outside. In particular we will be looking at and using number lines in 2D and 3D. They are visually stimulating and an interesting way of helping your child to count up to ten and beyond with real understanding of number and sequence. We will continue to sing number rhymes and encourage the children to count using their fingers and to develop an understanding of taking away. Looking at numbers in the environment with your child, such as door and bus numbers, encourage number recognition and to think about larger numbers.



Understanding the World

This heading incorporates many areas of learning such as Design, Science, Geography, History, Religious Education, Information Communication Technology (ICT) computers.

Science covers play such as sand and water which takes place daily outside and inside. We cook or prepare food every week relevant to the topic and all the children will take part at some point. If any parents are interested in coming in to cook with us and share recipes from their own countries please talk to one of the team.

This term we will celebrate Chinese New Year and introduce the children to another festival to gain an awareness of the culture and beliefs of others.



Expressive Arts and Design

We will continue to encourage creative development by providing the appropriate resources for the children to choose and explore independently. The children will make models and moving toys out of junk using the skills they have learnt and with our support. Collage work, drawing and painting using a range of techniques will continue. All of this work contributes to the lovely classroom displays and the children's individual Special Books.



Role play and imaginative play is very important in children's all round development, primarily in listening, speaking and socially. Playing different roles in scenarios such as the 'Toy Shop' and 'Hospital' help the children to achieve these skills. They will also act out familiar stories, dramatising the different characters and using story language. The children will continue to have music sessions with Juwon, our Music Coordinator during the term.

PATCH

Children will continue to take two books home for parents and other family members to read to them. As a child starts to feel confident they may want to be the storyteller by picking up on clues from the pictures. Talk to them about the overall meaning from the pictures on the pages eg. What might happen next? Do not insist on accurate 'reading' - interest and confidence is what we are trying to build. Pointing out letters from your child's name and the same sounds in the environment are a good way of drawing your child's attention to words. Read with your child when they are comfortable and relaxed, it should be a time of enjoyment, not pressure. Your child will need a PATCH bag for the books, these can be purchased from the school office. We change books on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If your child would like to keep the books for longer that's fine.

We look forward to working with you and your child.

Jeanette and the Nursery Team