

Themes: Sustainability and Journeys

Our value of the term is achievement

We will be supporting the children to recognise and celebrate the skills that they have achieved. We will also be setting ourselves challenges for things that we can't do yet - and thinking about the learning behaviours that will help us to achieve those such as practise, keeping on trying and getting help from others.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - We will be focusing on developing children's self-confidence and self esteem, providing opportunities for children to share their learning with their peers and to receive and offer praise. This will happen during regular show and tell sessions as well as when partnering up with their friends during play to share their skills. This term we will also be supporting children in the transition to Reception class. We will make sure they get to spend time with their new teacher and in their new classrooms before the end of term. If we feel any particular child is especially anxious about this, we will make sure they are given extra opportunities to feel comfortable in the new space and are given additional time to make relationships with the Reception staff team.

Health and Self Care - Independence is the key word here ! We will be encouraging children to try to be as independent as possible, putting on shoes and coats etc, going to the toilet, and looking after their possessions.

Communication and Language - By regularly presenting their creations to the class children will develop their spoken language, active listening and questioning skills. The children will continue to use their growing knowledge of story language to dictate and act out their own stories. Children will be developing their vocabulary and language through role-play - for example the Giant's Castle, picnic and cafe play and train station.

Physical Development - Children will be developing their strength and coordination through a range of obstacle courses, many of which they create themselves. Our gardening activities will provide lots of opportunity to develop both gross motor and fine motor skills as we develop strength using tools and manipulate tiny seeds and seedlings. Children will also be challenging themselves to learn new skills and improve their fitness levels in weekly PE lessons.

Literacy - We will be enjoying lots of stories about growth and change, for example The Hungry Caterpillar and Jasper's Beanstalk, and will immerse ourselves in stories about magical and everyday journeys next half term. The children will be creating their own versions of some of these stories, including The Little Red Hen and We're Going on a Bear Hunt. We will be publishing a collection of our stories and using our emergent writing skills for a purpose every day, e.g. writing labels for our models and maps in our play. We will be focusing on developing each child's pencil grip and supporting them to write their names.

Mathematics - This term we have been doing lots of thinking about measurement, developing the vocabulary to sort, describe and compare objects of different sizes. We will be developing our understanding of size through exploration - creating cosy dens just big enough for two or experiencing feeling small in a big space. Next term we will focus on sorting objects into categories, making collections of different amounts and recognising numerals in our environment.

Understanding the World - This term has all been about growth and change. We have planted lots vegetables including potatoes, tomatoes and beans. We have been watching tadpoles and caterpillars grow and change over time in the classroom and thinking about change through recycling by making paper. Through weekly cooking activities we will be investigating the different parts of plants and experiencing change. Next term we will focus on vehicles and how things work, how to make things move and learning more about the features of our local neighbourhood.

Expressive Arts and Design - We have been exploring different printing techniques as well as experimenting with using different textures, creating our own paint, chalk and charcoal. We will be doing observational drawings of fruit and vegetables and next term will explore 'taking a line for a walk' to see what we create. We will continue our interest in model making by creating vehicles using a range of materials. Children will continue to learn new songs and will create their own musical journeys. We will continue to engage in imaginative play based on children's interests on a daily basis, encouraging children to think about dramatic skills such as how their character might move, what they might say and the props they might want to find or make to develop their storyline.