

## Themes: Sustainability and Journeys



### Our value of the term is achievement

We will be thinking back to the start of reception, identifying the many different skills that the children have developed over the course of the year and asking them which achievements they are most proud of - from fastening their own coat to making a model or learning to read. Please let us know about any of your child's achievements outside of school so that we can celebrate them in class too.

Photo: Display of vegetable faces inspired by the Italian painter Giuseppe Arcimboldo

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** – This half-term we will be exploring some of the qualities embodied by the characters in our key texts such as selfishness, kindness and bravery. In the second half-term we will focus on preparing the children for their transition to Year 1.

**Communication and Language** – We will be deepening the children's understanding of our key texts through role-play, encouraging them to act out scenes from the stories and explore the characters feelings using masks and puppets. We are also looking forward to our third Talk for Writing unit which will be based on the story Mr Gumpy's Outing.

**Physical Development** – The children continue to have weekly PE lessons where they will be practicing their throwing, catching and running skills. In addition to this, we will be setting up equipment in the lower hall every Wednesday. In the classroom, letter formation continues to be a daily focus.

**Literacy** – We have carefully selected a range of high quality texts which link to our themes and will lead to meaningful writing opportunities. The children have now been introduced to all of the Set 1 and 2 sounds which are taught in reception and the remainder of the term will be spent consolidating this knowledge, in particular the 'special friends' sounds, and supporting the children to write full sentences.

**Maths** - This half term we will be consolidating the children's understanding of numbers 11- 20, alongside revisiting time and money We will also be solving addition and subtraction problems by counting on and back. Next half-term we will focus on halving and doubling and describing shapes and patterns.

**Understanding the World** – Linking to our theme of sustainability, the children will learn about how plants provide us with lots of different fruit and vegetables, what plants need to grow well, and about farms and farming. The children will plant a range of different seeds and observe how they change as they grow. In the second half-term, the children will develop their knowledge of maps and boats.

**Expressive Arts and Design** – This half-term our main focus will be on using natural objects to create transient art. After the half-term, we will be making models using a range of materials, including wood.