



Early Years' Curriculum Leaflet

Summer Term 2019



All Things Bright and Beautiful

**Reception - Mrs Cubbage, Mrs Haddock and
Mrs McGurk**

**Nursery - Miss Kerridge, Miss Ross, Mrs Todd
and Mrs Anderson**

This term our topic in Early Years will be 'All things bright and beautiful' and we will have a particular focus on living things. We are hoping this will be of interest for all the children in Early Years and we are excited to see where their learning will take us. We will be growing plants and investigating minibeasts in our environment.

The aim of this leaflet is to give you an overview of the skills to be covered during the study of this topic. Due to the child focussed curriculum in the Foundation Stage, we are unable to specify exactly what we will be doing as it can change regularly depending on the interests and abilities of the children. The topic will be used as a vehicle to explore children's interests within the seven areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Each week there is a new focus which has a particular emphasis on an area of learning. These focuses may change according to the children's learning and interests.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

By working both indoor and outdoor, children will develop a repertoire of skills using a range of resources including natural resources and living things. This topic of 'All things bright and beautiful' provides valuable opportunities for children to show sensitivity to their surroundings, to work collaboratively and to express feelings in response to natural objects.

The children will learn about the importance of staying safe in the sun as well as the need for regular drinks to keep us healthy. We will also learn about other ways to stay healthy.

The younger children will continue to be given the opportunity to build secure relationships with the adults and other children in the unit, as well as develop an understanding of rules and daily routines. It is hoped that existing children will model positive behaviour and show care and concern for their new friends; demonstrating how to operate in the unit on a daily basis.

Physical Development

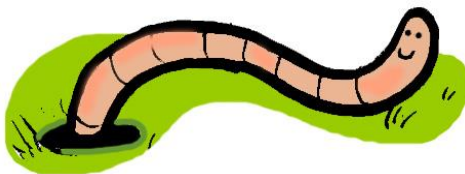
Whilst the weather is good the children will have many opportunities to be active outside. During P.E lessons, we will learn some outdoor games for the children to play as well as learning some basic ball skills. We will also be focussing on athletics, in preparation for Sports Day. There will be opportunities for children to develop their fine-motor skills in activities such as working with dough and preparing food. Through imitating the actions of mini-beasts and enacting lifestyles, children will have the opportunity to develop the skills of moving with confidence and imagination.

Opportunities are taken to draw attention to changes in their bodies. During the second half-term, the children will continue with their specialist yoga sessions.

We will continue with Forest School activities and outdoor education.

Communication and Language

Whilst naming and talking about the various minibeasts we find, the children will be able to develop their vocabulary and listening skills. The children will be using a range of tenses as they will be saying what they have found, what they are looking for and what they think they will find. Every child will have opportunities to ask questions about the minibeasts or things which interest them.



Literacy

During this topic the children will explore selected non-fiction, fiction and poetry texts. Children will enjoy listening to the books and respond in a variety of ways to what they hear, reinforcing and extending their vocabularies. Children will continue to be encouraged to mark-make for different purposes, and it is likely that they will do some non-fiction writing styles such as instructions and fact sheets about mini-beasts.

Phonics

We will continue to follow the Read/Write Inc program in Reception to be able to blend the sounds to read. In Nursery, some children will be continuing to learn letter sounds and the corresponding grapheme (what it looks like), whilst most others will continue to experiment with different sounds they hear and recognisable letters around them.

Mathematics

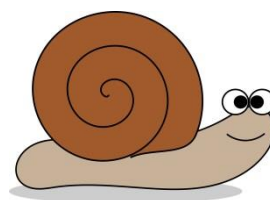
The topic of all things bright and beautiful provides a meaningful context for mathematical activities which are closely linked to everyday experiences. Using natural materials such as flowers, fruit and insects, provide opportunities for children to sort by size, colour and shape. Our focus on minibeasts will give children the opportunity to develop an understanding of addition and subtraction - counting the number of spots altogether for example. Children also will gain an awareness of time scales, looking at the changes to seeds over a period of days or the changes that occur to the environment as the seasons move along learning days of the week, the months of the year and the four different seasons as we go.

Understanding the World

This term's topic offers many opportunities for children to explore and investigate, to make observations and to ask questions. Children will be expected to comment on and talk about what they see. They can extend their awareness of the local environment as they search for mini beasts and discover different habitats. We will be going out to explore the local area and the different habitats there. Notification will be sent out so we can get consent for your child to leave the school grounds. We will begin by looking at signs of summer, as the term progresses children will develop an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time, including how spring gives way to summer, the different seasons of the year and the life cycles of different animals. Whilst learning about minibeasts they will learn about the variety of creatures around them and begin to know something of the similarities and differences between them.

Expressive Arts and Design

During this topic children will explore and experience using a range of materials and resources as they weave, make models and explore a range of creative making tasks. Children are encouraged to respond imaginatively to situations and also act out real-life situations. Our role-play area inside this term will be a garden centre. Music is used as a way of supporting imaginative movement, with suggestions for the use of pitch, tempo and volume. We will continue to develop our sensory garden outside and children will be encouraged to 'make' some instruments to hang outdoors.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Tapestry:

Tapestry is an excellent way to share your child's learning and enjoyment, both at home and at school. The continuous dialogue between home and school is paramount to your child's development in Early Years and your contributions to Tapestry help us to identify areas of interests that your child has or can develop their confidence by encouraging them to talk about their experiences and show photographs. If you have any questions about Tapestry then please ask!

Reading:

To promote early reading skills and the enjoyment of books and stories, children will choose a book from the school library to share at home every week. The children will choose their own book and it should be returned on Friday for library time. When the teacher changes the book they will talk to your child about the story to find out how they enjoyed it. All children's books will be changed on Friday.

In Reception your child continue to bring home a reading book. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home and record in the yellow Reading Record book when they have read.

P.E. Kit:

If your child is in Reception, please ensure that they have a **named PE kit** in school every day. This should consist of:

- a plain white t-shirt
- blue shorts
- plimsolls that fit

We will start to teach PE outside during this topic, please make sure that your child has some appropriate kit in school.

Visits/Visitors

Further information regarding any visits will be given nearer the time.

If anybody would like to come into our unit to help out on a regular basis then please let Mrs Cabbage know as we always welcome people to come in and support the children and join in the fun!!

Please feel free to come in to school anytime if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Cabbage

Early Years' Coordinator



