

Communication and Language

Listening, Attention and Understanding

Our focus texts this half term are 'Blue Penguin' by Petr Horacek and 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne. We will also be enjoying other class reads from the same authors and / or on similar topics of hot and cold countries.

Children will continue to think and talk confidently about their response to the books, using prediction, asking questions, and expressing their own ideas and opinions. They will think about the story meanings conveyed in the illustrations.

They will enjoy listening to, responding to and using spoken and written language in play and learning. They will have the opportunity to use audio equipment to listen to a variety of stories exploring the focus theme.

Speaking

The children will bring a story to life by reading aloud together, responding to rhythm, rhyme and pattern. They will have the opportunity to explore the story through collaborative play, role-play and storytelling. They will use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences and to develop sustained story making and storytelling. Children will use key topic vocabulary confidently, communicating in full sentences with increasing use of conjunctions and correct tenses.

Literacy

Comprehension

Children will demonstrate an understanding of a sequence of events in the focus texts and other familiar stories. They will be able to say what happened in the beginning, middle and end of a familiar story. They will join in with repeated refrains and anticipate key events and phrases in rhymes and stories and will be able to retell stories and narratives including key vocabulary in their recount.

Word Reading

Children will review their set 1 phonemes and begin to learn set 2 diagraphs using the Read, Write Inc scheme. They will use their phonic knowledge to continue to segment the sounds in words and blend them together to read aloud simple sentences with an increasing recognition of common exception words.

Writing

Children will write for meaning and purpose in a variety of narrative and non-narrative forms. They will continue to use the 'Talk for Writing' approach creating story maps and zigzag books based on the class text.. Children will continue to practise letter formation. Using sound knowledge to write simple sentences, notes, labels, lists and captions that can be read by themselves and others.

Physical Development

Gross Motor Skills

Children will explore moving freely and energetically. They will move with confidence in a range of ways, demonstrating a developing skill in balance and coordination. They will create and negotiate obstacles taking account of personal safety and that of others.

In PE the children will be refining their ball skills focusing on rolling, bouncing, throwing and catching. They will be working with ball of different shapes, sizes and densities.

Fine Motor Skills

Children will continue to take part in daily pen disco sessions to build muscle strength for fine motor control. They will begin handwriting sessions, demonstrating the ability to hold a pencil in a tripod grip to begin forming recognisable letters and to demonstrate increasing accuracy and care when drawing.. They will use a range of hand held tools and equipment with increasing accuracy including scissors, pencils, paintbrushes and cutlery.

Catkins Class (EYFS): Spring 2 Topic Web

Intrepid Explorers

Invent, Explore, Discover!

Expressive Arts and Design

Creating with materials

Children will explore a range of malleable materials and will experiment with a variety of mark making tools and media. They will continue to construct with a purpose in mind e.g. prop making. They will use a variety of resources, tools and techniques needed to shape, assemble and join materials. Children will have opportunities to return to artwork to amend, improve and / or adapt building on relevant skills.

Being Imaginative and Expressive

Children will continue to engage in imaginative role play based on own first-hand experiences. They will explore and create voices, learn to sing songs and rhymes, and share and perform stories. In Music sessions children will listen and respond to a range of familiar songs based on the theme 'Our World'. They will continue to build on rhythm, pitch, improvisation and composition both vocally and with instruments.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Self-Regulation

We will continue to support children in talking about their feelings and those of their peers, and will work together in developing strategies to manage and regulate these emotions.

We will continue to support children in extending their attention for sustained periods of time on focused tasks and on following instructions that involve several steps. Children will continue to set and work towards simple personal goals and will understand and recognise the feeling of pride and accomplishment.

Managing Self

The theme for our circle time sessions will be 'Healthy Me'. Children will learn what being 'healthy' means and some of things they need to do to keep their bodies healthy; including exercise, sleep, oral hygiene, hand washing and healthy eating. They will also show an understanding of managing personal safety in regard to identifying a stranger.

Children will take part in PE lessons and explore what happens to their bodies when they are active and show understanding of the need for safety when tackling new challenges and consider and manage some risks.

Building relationships

Children will be able to initiate conversations, attend to and take account of what others say. They will continue to explain their own knowledge and understanding, and asks appropriate questions of others. They will demonstrate an ability to turn take and make compromises with their peers.

Maths

Number

Children will take part in daily Mastering Number sessions. Focusing on counting, ordinality, cardinality, comparison, composition and subitising within 10.

Numerical Patterns

The children will also explore mathematical concepts through practical activities using the White Rose Maths Scheme. They will explore themes including; 'Length and Height', 'Making Pairs', 'Time', 'Pattern', 'Counting and comparing numbers to 9 and 10', 'Number bonds to 10' and '3D shapes, spatial awareness and pattern.'

Understanding the World

People, Culture and Communities

Children will continue to enjoy joining in with family and class customs and routines. They will talk about the Christian symbol of the cross and its significance to Christians especially at Easter.

The Natural World

Children will make observations of animals and plants, identifying key features and will talk about growth and change. They will compare and contrast hot and cold countries focusing both on geographical features and the countries inhabitants.

Past and Present

Children will learn to talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They will explore the past through the life of Captain Scott of the Antarctic.