

Personal, Social, Emotional Development

During our second term, we will continue to work on co-operative play, furthering the understanding that our own actions (and words) can affect other people, as well as being a 'good listener' and following instructions carefully. I will also be asking children to use 'talk partners' during whole class sessions to maximise the opportunity to practice conversation 'turn-taking' and listening to what others have to say.

Challenges

During choosing time, there is now 5 challenges per week that your child may choose to complete. These are directly linked to our theme and areas for furthering learning. These challenges are introduced on Monday and children have until Friday to complete these. Each completed task is ticked on the chart, and those who complete all 5 challenges are rewarded with a certificate and prize on Friday afternoons.

Expressive Arts and Design

Throughout this term, children will still have the opportunity to create junk model masterpieces, but I will be asking them to plan their design before getting started with making. We will also be making rocket models, with children choosing the appropriate resources to make it look as realistic as possible! The space-station role play area contains costumes for children to play cooperatively and act out the space adventure stories we read together. We will also be listening and moving to space themed music from different genres.

Physical Development

In the outside area, children are encouraged to experiment with a variety of games and resources to improve their gross motor skills; for example, stilts, stepping stones, giant chalk and ball sports. We will continue to work on letter formation and ensuring that pencils are always held correctly, using play-doh and other construction resources to work on further improving fine motor skills. During PE, we will be experimenting with different ways of moving and travelling, as well as negotiating space successfully when playing racing and chasing games.

Communication and Language

We will be continuing to work on extending children's concentration span, I will begin to ask children questions on a deeper level- asking them to explain 'why' to show their understanding further. We will also be looking at how we ask questions, and what makes a good question, especially as we prepare for an expert visitor coming to see us in class later in the term. Being able to respond to the questions and ideas of others (for example, when expressing and justifying preferences) is a focus for this term.

Literacy

Daily Phonics lessons are continuing, and children are encouraged to use their phonics knowledge to begin to write such things as labels for a diagram they have drawn, as well as captions for their pictures. Much of our writing work is based on experiencing a range of fiction books related to the topic of space, space travel and aliens. Children will be encouraged to talk about the stories and use vocabulary and forms of speech linked to these.



Reception Class- Spring Term 1

Numeracy

We will continue to work on number recognition, ordering and formation of numerals of to 10 (and then 20). We will be using vocabulary linked to time and days (for example days of the week, today, tomorrow, yesterday) and sequencing familiar events within our school day. Towards the end of Spring 1 term, we will also begin to find the total number of items in two groups by counting them all, introducing the concept of addition.

Understanding the World

Within the space exploration topic, we will be considering how living on planet Earth might differ from other planets/moons in our solar system. We will also be exploring Chinese New Year in February, looking closely at similarities and differences with our celebrations and traditions. In computing, we are using simple software to learn some basic programming techniques, as well as continuing with mouse control and using the touch-screen in the classroom to create rocket art.