

Foundation Stage 1
Curriculum Letter
Autumn Term 2016



The focus for this term is
'Me, Me, Me'

Learning will be based around:

- Senses
- People who help us
- Autumn

Teaching Staff

Mrs Parkes

Mrs Sample

Support Staff

Mrs Laughton

Mrs Dent

Home Loan

In Nursery we operate a home loan system which is situated in the cloakroom area. Choose a book with your child to share at home and record it on their card.

Outdoor Learning

We go outside as much as possible (usually every day) please ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear.

PLEASE NAME ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING.

Welcome

Welcome back to the beginning of the new school year. We hope you all had a lovely Summer break. We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new children and parents. Please find outlined key information for the term. On the back of this letter you will find curriculum information and activities that you may wish to try at home.



Voluntary Contribution

We ask for a voluntary contribution of 50p a week. This enables us to 'cook' up lots of exciting things in our kitchen area with the children which allow them to experience working with, and trying new foods. Without this voluntary contribution we would not be able to do these exciting things.

Dates for your diary

School Trip to Stewart Park - Wednesday 19th October (TBC More details to follow)

PD Day - Friday 21st October

<p>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</p> <p>We will be concentrating on settling the children so they feel safe and ready to learn. The children will participate in weekly circle times and will follow the SEAL scheme of work. This term it involves the topic New Beginnings.</p> <p><u>At home activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage your child to talk to you about what they have done in Nursery - Play games that involve taking turns and sharing. - Use the 'I can Camel' stickers to let us know what your child has achieved at home. 	<p>Physical Development</p> <p>This term we will be focusing on developing physical skills using the outdoor space and using scooters, bikes and ride on vehicles. We will also work on skills such as running with control, jumping up and down and off equipment, and climbing. We will be having fun with 'Squiggle while you wiggle' sessions to help develop our fine and gross motor skills.</p> <p><u>At home activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take a trip to the park and encourage your child to climb and jump from play equipment safely - Take part in threading, cutting, painting and drawing activities to develop fine motor skills. - Encourage your child to draw pictures and write their name, using a variety of writing implements and encourage the correct pencil grip.
<p>Communication and Language</p> <p>This term we will be concentrating on developing speaking and listening skills, whilst listening to stories and instructions, playing in role play situations and communicating with each other.</p> <p><u>At home activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage your child to speak as much as possible at home, talking to them about everyday life and activities that you have done together. - Encourage your child to use toys/puppets to retell stories or events. 	<p>Literacy</p> <p>We will be learning what sounds our name begins with and having fun with our name. As part of our phonics work we will be focusing on listening and memory skills</p> <p><u>At home activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support your child with recognising and writing their name. - Enjoy sharing stories together. - Encourage your child to talk about stories they have listened to and say what their favourite part was and why.
<p>Mathematics</p> <p>In Maths the children will be learning to recognise numbers to 10, to count and to sing number rhymes. They will also be working with Numicon to support their mathematical learning. The children will be working with shapes, matching, sorting and naming them.</p> <p><u>At home activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sing number rhymes with your child - Count objects in the environment - Play simple matching and number games - Go on a shape hunt around your home or garden - see which simple shapes you can find. - Make pictures using shapes. - Make pictures using patterns - Whilst on a walk outdoors look for patterns in the environment or spot numerals on signs and buildings. 	<p>Understanding the World</p> <p>This term, we will be learning about our body as well as about hygiene, both personal and when we are using food. We will be investigating the five senses; sight, taste, touch, smell and hearing through a variety of activities. We will be supporting our topic work with a trip to Stewart Park to explore Autumn using some of our Senses. As part of our cultural work we will take a look at festivals such as Diwali and Christmas and also talk about some historical facts around Guy Fawkes and Bonfire Night.</p> <p>We will also be getting the children involved in some exciting cooking activities, which will involve learning about ingredients, preparation, processes, where food comes from, hygiene, healthy eating and tasting!</p> <p><u>At home activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Talk to your child about seasons and months of the year. - Go on a senses walk with your child around your garden or local park. - Talk about different parts of your body and what your body can do. - Cook or bake with your child - explain the processes involved.

Expressive Arts and Design

This term the children will be continuing to learn songs and playing instruments, experimenting with how sounds can be changed during Music and Beat Baby. They will also be working on building models using various construction kits, blocks and using junk to stick and join together. They will have the opportunity to draw and create pictures and paintings whilst exploring how colours can be mixed to make new colours. The children also have the opportunity to engage in a 'messy play' session where they can enjoy exploring a range of different textures whilst using their imagination and senses.

At home activities

- Sing simple songs and nursery rhymes together
- Encourage your child to paint or draw to create pictures.
- Provide a variety of junk boxes - let them explore what they can make and how they can fix them together.
- When painting, let your child mix different coloured paints together to make new colours.
- Explore and describe different materials found outside in Autumn such as pine cones and leaves.

Feel free to inform us in school of any activities your child has joined in with you.

What is Squiggle while you Wiggle and why we do it?

Once a week your child will take part in a *Squiggle while you wiggle* session. This involves learning and practising a gross motor movement to music, (such as Jackson 5 ABC, Tina Turner Rollin) Beginning with dancing the movement with pompoms or wands, then moving on to making the marks with crayons, paint or chalks. We talk about the movements as we are making them i.e "Up, up, down, down" for straight lines, "Up and over" for arches, as well as which letter shapes they can help to write. Children need control of all of their fingers, both arms and body to be able to write, co-ordination is a key skill. We use Squiggle while you wiggle to help achieve this. It supports many of the EYFS objectives including, beginning to show some control in the use of tools and equipment, distinguishing and ascribing meaning between the different marks they see and make, and beginning to use anti-clockwise movements and retracing vertical lines.

What is messy play and why we do it?

Every Friday we aim to set up a specific messy or sensory play activity, this could be using shaving foam, gloop (cornflour and water), coloured rice or other materials. These activities are designed to ignite children's natural curiosity, as well as build imagination and creativity. Messy and sensory play provides opportunities for your child to develop and practice fine motor skills, hand eye co-ordination and compare textures, while developing vocabulary. They will build their understanding of the world around them through investigating, exploring, designing and creating. These activities also provide many opportunities for developing mathematical skills such as sorting, counting and measuring. There are no "right" ways to explore the materials so the activities help to build confidence and self-esteem, and enable children to become involved whatever their abilities, as well as being fun!

Beat Baby

Beat Baby is an appealing character designed to bring excitement and encouragement to rhyme and music sessions. This tiny character curls up in a ball, until the children wake her up with a rhyme. The children are then encouraged to join in with a variety of action songs which have steady beats to develop a sense of rhythm. Beat Baby can also be used to promote speaking, listening, creativity and thinking skills. The children take it in turns to take Beat Baby home on a Friday, with a short task for you and your child to do together.



To enhance our work on 'People who help us' it would be great if there are any parents or relatives who work as a Doctor, Nurse, Paramedic, in the Police, Fire or Ambulance service etc who would be willing to come and visit us in Nursery to talk to the children about their job, therefore giving the children valuable first hand experiences. If you think you or someone you know might be able to help please let us know. Many Thanks.