

General Information

Daily reading both at home and at school enables good progress to be made in all areas. Please comment in your child's reading diary so we can see how they are doing. Books will be changed weekly and children will read to an adult in school.

The Foundation Stage Curriculum has 7 areas of learning which are Personal and Social Development, Physical Development, Communication and Language, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design. All children have a learning journey where observations, photographs and work samples are saved. These are shared with you at parents meetings but you are very welcome to look at them whenever you wish. Please speak to a member of staff whenever you wish to view your child's learning journey.

We welcome and value contributions from home. Please send into school any photographs showing out of school interests or achievements. Please also bring into school any certificates or trophies. We are always keen to see what other interests and skills our children have.

Any Junk boxes or materials that you wish to recycle will be very much appreciated by us, as we use it in our creative area for making amazing models.

We recognise and enjoy children's success and support children to feel good about their own achievements. We like to celebrate achievements both in school and out of school. We always enjoy hearing about out of school achievements. Please send into school any certificates, photos, trophies etc. which show hobbies and pursuits. These can then be displayed in our entrance area.

Please speak to a member of staff if you have any questions or concerns. Thank-you so much for your support. We are looking forward to an exciting and busy year ahead.

SPECIAL SUPERNOVAS



**TEACHERS—MRS MCQUILLAN, MRS HEELEY AND MRS
HAYNES
FOUNDATION STAGE**

The Summer term is a very busy time for the Special Supernovas. Our main topics will be 'Minibeasts' and 'Animals'. We will be using stories, props and our environment to support our work on these topics. Here is a brief summary of some of the activities we will be doing.

In **Literacy** we will be applying our phonic skills when writing for different purposes. We will be writing lists, labels, captions and sentences. We will be encouraging writing in all areas, both inside and out. We will be focussing on the spelling of tricky words and using these words correctly in our independent writing.

Our class author this term is Martin Waddell. We will be enjoying lots of wonderful stories written by this author. Look at all our work on the class author board.

We will continue to have our 'Big Read' sessions once a week. In these lessons we focus on the different types of questions and try to answer these using evidence from the book. We always have fun when using lots of props and puppets to re-enact stories. We will be working on our use of expression to make our reading lively and interesting for the listener.

We will also be having our weekly 'Big Write' lesson. In these sessions we will be applying all the skills acquired so far into an independent piece of writing.

In **Mathematics** we will be using a variety of resources and props to further extend our problem solving skills. We will be applying the skills of doubling, halving, addition and subtraction when solving problems. We will use number lines and 100 squares to help us with our calculations. We will also be exploring time and money in role-play situations.

We will be exploring 2D and 3D shapes. We will be using the correct names for the shapes and mathematical vocabulary when commenting on the properties of shapes. We will explore capacity, length and height in a variety of situations.

In **Understanding of the World** we will be talking about different animals and the environments that they live in. We will be exploring the colour, shape and patterns of different animals. We will be naming a range of different animals and will be matching the adult to their young. We are all looking forward to our school trip to Tropical World where we will see lots of amazing animals.

We will discuss the range of technology that is used in school and at home. We will use non-fiction books and the computer to research our topic and find out more information. We will be learning lots of new vocabulary related to our topic.

In **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** we learn how positive relationships are formed by showing sensitivity to others' needs and feelings.

Children are always encouraged to explain their own learning and to ask appropriate questions of others. We always encourage an ethos of self-confidence, self awareness and perseverance. We enjoy taking part in the weekly themed assembly. We explore each theme in our classroom by using stories and discussion.

We encourage children to talk about their ideas and to be confident when speaking in a familiar group. Children know that they can choose the resources they need for their chosen activities and to say when they do or don't need help.

This term will also involve activities and discussions around growth and change. We will provide transition activities which will help our children feel happy and excited about moving into Year 1.

Our topics this half term are.. Minibeasts and Animals

In **Expressive Arts and Design** we will be drawing and painting different animals. We will be thinking carefully about shape, colour and pattern when drawing and painting. We will be asking children to add increasing detail to their work.

We will be drawing and painting different animal habitats. We will be thinking carefully about camouflage and the colours we use.

We will play cooperatively as part of a group to develop and act out a narrative. We will re-enact short stories in front of others, adding expression and gestures to create effect.

We will be learning new songs and applying our creative skills in a variety of activities.

In **Physical Development** we will be using a variety of equipment both indoors and outdoors to develop our gross and fine motor skills.

We have P.E. lessons on a Tuesday afternoon and Friday morning. This term we will be focussing on Games.

As the weather is getting nicer we are looking forward to outdoor games on a Friday morning. Please remember to bring a pair of outdoor P.E. shoes with your kit on a Friday.

In **Communication and Language** we will be working on our speaking and listening skills through circle times and small differentiated group tasks. In our whole class discussions we always enjoy learning lots of new vocabulary and try to use these new words ourselves during focussed tasks. We will be using extended language in topic and literacy sessions.

We encourage children to use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are about to happen. Children are encouraged to express themselves effectively and develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.

Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural

Children will be encouraged to respect one another and property. Children will be made aware of school rules and expectations. We will listen to others and show care for others feelings. We will find out about the diverse world we live in. We discuss British Values and learn how to be a good friend and community member.

Please have a look at our S,M,S,C book (social, moral, spiritual and cultural) which is on display in our corridor area. This will show you all the activities that children do to support learning and development in this area.