

Curriculum Newsletter

Foundation Unit

Welcome back! We hope you've all had a wonderful Christmas! We really enjoyed hearing about what a lovely Christmas all of the children have had. Our topic is called **Around the World** We will be learning about England, France, Africa, The Polar regions, Australia and China. All areas of learning are taught through stimulating and exciting practical activities and play, linking to our topic. Below are some of the things we will be learning about in the 7 areas of our curriculum:

Learning Opportunities in the Early Years Foundation Stage this half term are:

PRIME AREAS:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - Much of this will be taught through day to day classroom practice and circle time. We will focus on talking about how the children themselves and others show feelings and listening to each other when we share our own experiences of visiting places from around the world.

Physical Development - Foundation 2 children will continue their gymnastic work focusing on balancing, jumping and landing appropriately this term. Also, as additional physical development time we will try out some African dancing.

Foundation 1 children will focus on movement and gymnastics. This will include balancing, jumping and landing appropriately and safely. Please note F1 children **do not** need a PE kit they just take off their shoes and socks. In class we will also be developing our fine motor skills by using small equipment such as scissors, pincers and play dough tools purposely. We will be busy mark making developing of art skills, making models and painting.

Communication and Language - There will be lots of opportunities to develop our speaking & listening skills through literacy, role play, circle times and play. We will be focusing on asking and answering relevant questions about the stories and topics we look at.

SPECIFIC AREAS:

Literacy (reading and writing) - In Foundation 2, as well as the daily Read, Write, Inc sessions we will be focusing on being able to hold our own simple sentence and writing it independently, hearing and writing all sounds within a word and transferring our RWI knowledge into our writing. Some children will be using some super connectives and describing words to make their sentences more exciting.

In Foundation 1, some children will continue with Read, Write Inc and others will be focusing on the letter of the week and hearing initial sounds in words. The children may bring in an object beginning with that letter and we will learn how to say the sound, write the sound and look at different things that begin with that sound. In our writing and mark making we will be focusing on writing the sounds in our names, making a list of objects Paddington needs in his suitcase, postcards and labeling African/Australian animals.

Mathematics - In F2 we will be still be practicing our number recognition and formation as well as finding 1 more and 1 less than numbers, practising how to share, double, add, half and take away numbers.

In F1 We will be still be focusing on recognising our numbers and counting objects 1:1 but we will also be looking at ordering numbers, combining 2 groups of objects together to find the total and finding one more and 1 less using objects..

Understanding the World - In both F1 and F2 recognising similarities and differences will again be a big part of our learning this term We will share and explore differences and similarities in cultures, the climate and the features of different places.

Also in F2, we will be learning about technology around our school and in our homes and its different uses.

Expressive Arts and Design - Within this area in both F1 and F2 will create artwork and models, make music, sing songs and taste and bake foods. All of this will be linked to the different countries in which we learn about.

Ways to help your child:

- Encourage your child to be **independent** - Putting their own coat on ,getting dressed for PE and putting their own belongings in their drawer.
- Encourage your child every morning to find their name and write their name on their own name card (F1)
- Practise writing their name at home in fun ways - foam bath letters, magnetic letters, using a paintbrush and water, chalk outside etc,
- Encourage your child to listen carefully, speak clearly, follow instructions accurately;
- Spend time together sharing books (3 times a week) you could: discuss the pictures, model how to hold a book, turn the pages, count the words on the page, look for any sounds they recognise. Remember to record it in your child's home-school reading diary. Every week that your child reads at **least 3** times they will be moved up on the 'Racing Readers' and receive a prize after 8 weeks!
- Look for numbers, letters and words in the environment - model reading signs and words;
- Practise letter sounds and counting
- In the achievement basket record your child's achievements so that we can celebrate and share them at school;
- In your child's Home Learning book, look for home learning tasks and complete them together - encouraging your child to do as much as possible by themselves. Home learning will be sent out every other Friday and needs to be returned by the following Friday.

Just a reminder:

- Please bring your child's book bag with their home-school diary **everyday**. If your child does not bring their book bag they may miss their reading day and books **will not** get changed.
- Mrs Troth (Charlie's mum) has very kindly offered to bake with a group of children every **Wednesday**. We ask for a contribution of **50p per week** to help buy the ingredients.
- Snack bar is every Thursday. Toast and Cereal bars **25p**
- Please ensure **ALL** items of clothing, bags and shoes have your child's name clearly marked. Then any lost items can be returned quickly to their rightful owner.

Donations

- We are running a little low on junk modeling this term and would appreciate any donations.
- New drainpipes, old blankets or bed covers, bread or milk crates we would love to use to build dens and use in our outdoor area.
- Spare clothes - We are always very grateful for any old uniforms, socks, underwear which no longer fit your children. Please if your child does come home in spare clothes can you return them asap!

Website: <http://www.woodsettsprimary.co.uk/>

On here you can find updates, lunchtime menus, diary dates and other important information.

We would like to thank you all for your continued support. If there is ever anything you want to discuss however big or small our doors are always open!

If you would like to contact a member of the Unit:

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