



Curriculum Newsletter

Foundation Unit

Welcome back! We hope you've all had a fun-tastic half term! We have been so impressed by the children's home learning efforts for of new topic 'Under the Sea! Our topic has begun with a fabulous trip to 'The Deep' where the children came face to face with some weird and wonderful sea creatures. This has helped to inspire and hook the children's learning and imagination to continue our topic. 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. This term we will focus on preparing the children for their move into their next class. Children will spend time getting used to new routines and be encouraged to become even more independent. As well as taking part in 'meet the teacher day', the children will also have the opportunity to visit their new classroom, for example joining for story time.

Physical Development - Both Foundation 1 and 2 will be practicing for sports day. This will include activities that involve good hand and eye coordination and will practise children's control and gross motor skills. **Please can you provide your child both F1 and F2 with a pair of outdoor shoes (trainers)**

In class we will continue to develop 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, threading and sewing! Also, this term we are introducing a new idea to help develop fine motor skills called 'dough disco!'

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 listening to others, responding appropriately and asking questions. As well as, being able to speak confidently in front of others about a visit or event using the correct tense. Foundation 2 children will also be taking part in whole school assemblies now developing being able to listen for a sustained period of time.

SPECIFIC AREAS:

Literacy (reading and writing) - In Foundation 2, as well as the daily Read, Write, Inc sessions we will be revisiting the sounds/words that we have learnt throughout the year ensuring that we can apply them in our reading and our writing independently. As well as being able to read our tricky words we are now expecting that children will be able to write many of them correctly.

In Foundation 1, some children will continue with Read, Write Inc and others will be focusing on orally blending words, now that they have learnt all sounds of the alphabet. In our writing and mark making we will be focusing on different stories relating to under the sea including Sharing a shell, Non fiction books and Dear Green peace. We will be predicting what will happen next, be able to confidently talk about the story, setting and characters. Children will be writing and forming the letters they can hear in words, blending and segmenting and writing captions and simple sentences,

Mathematics - Over our last half term we will be revisiting many areas that we have previously learnt such as adding, subtracting, doubling, halving and applying this to problem solving.

In F1 We will be recapping a lot of what we have already learnt to ensure we are confident with our numbers ready for Foundation 2 this will include counting, recognising, ordering, writing and additional skills such as adding and taking away.

Understanding the World - In both F1 and F2, the children will be discussing how the environment and living things are affected by human activity and how to show care and concern for living things in the environment. In F2 we also be learning about the properties of materials and knowing some of the purposes that they are used for.

In F1 and F2 in ICT we will continue to learn about how to navigate around a computer, how to use a mouse and show control when selecting tools on a paint program and to select the program that they need.

Expressive Arts and Design - In F1 we will use the music from 'The Little Mermaid - Under the sea' to sing, create a dance and experiment with music to change the beat, rhythm and volume. In creative we will use clay and paper mache to create under the sea models and do observational drawings of shells.

In F2 we will be combining materials to make new effects, textures and colours to create a paper mache under the sea animal, observational drawings and our own aquariums.

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 25p and the new choice will be plain brioche 35p.
- 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.
- **F2 will now be going into assembly at 9.55 please can you make sure your child is here on time.If**

the door is already shut please go to the office.

Donations

- We would really like some crates for building in the outdoor area but are finding them tricky to get our hands on. Please donate if you have any hanging around!
- Buttons, bottle tops, magazines, old birthday cards.
- 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!

A quick note:

As the weather is becoming a little more pleasant we are trying to spend more time outside. However, the ground is still very wet and we would like to ask for each child to bring a pair of wellies to school that can be left on their peg. Please ensure these have your child's name in and are in a bag. On sunny days please apply sun cream before coming to school, Members of staff can only apply sun cream to a child if they have their own sun cream (labeled clearly with their name) and if written consent has been given. Thank you.

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:

Miss Braidley - woprbradley@rgfl.org

Miss Plant - woplplant@rgfl.org