

Communication and Language

Listening, Attention and Understanding

Our focus texts this half term are 'Whatever Next!' by Jill Murphy and 'Astro Girl' by Ken Wilson-Max. We will also be enjoying other class reads from the same authors and / or on similar topics.

Children will continue to think and talk confidently about their response to the books, using prediction, asking questions, and expressing their own ideas and opinions. They will think about the story meanings conveyed in the illustrations.

They will enjoy listening to, responding to and using spoken and written language in play and learning. They will have the opportunity to use audio equipment to listen to a variety of stories exploring the focus theme - Space Exploration.

Speaking

The children will bring a story to life by reading aloud together, responding to rhythm, rhyme and pattern. They will have the opportunity to explore the story through collaborative play, role-play and storytelling. They will use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences and to develop sustained story making and storytelling. Children will learn to extend vocabulary, by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sounds of words.

Literacy

Comprehension

Children will demonstrate an understanding of a sequence of events in the focus texts and other familiar stories. Children will learn to think about story structure and will be able to say what happened in the beginning, middle and end of a story. They will join in with repeated refrains and anticipate key events and phrases in rhymes and stories and will be able to retell stories and narratives in their own words.

Word Reading

Children will review their set 1 phonemes using the Read, Write Inc scheme. They will use their phonic knowledge to continue to segment the sounds in words and blend them together to read.

Writing

Children will write for meaning and purpose in a variety of narrative and non-narrative forms.

They will continue to use the 'Talk for Writing' approach to draw story maps, create actions for the class text and perform it to another class. Children will continue to practise letter formation. Using emergent writing and sound knowledge to write notes, labels, lists and captions.

Physical Development

Gross Motor Skills

Children will take part in weekly PE sessions with a focus on Dance. They will explore moving freely and energetically. They will move with confidence in a range of ways, demonstrating a developing skill in balance and coordination. They will create and negotiate obstacles taking account of personal safety and that of others. They will develop muscle strength through large scale building and mark making opportunities.

Fine Motor Skills

Children will continue to take part in daily dough disco sessions to build muscle strength for fine motor control. They will use a range of hand held tools and equipment with increasing accuracy including scissors, pencils, paintbrushes and cutlery. They will be able to hold a pencil between two fingers and thumb in a developing tripod grip to begin forming recognisable letters.

Catkins Class (EYFS): Spring 1 Topic Web

Blast Off!

Invent, Explore, Discover!

Expressive Arts and Design

Creating with materials

Children will explore a range of malleable materials and will experiment with a variety of mark making tools and media. They will continue to construct with a purpose in mind, using a variety of resources and select tools, and techniques needed to shape, assemble and join materials. For example, building junk model rockets and papier-mâché planets.

Being Imaginative and Expressive

Children will continue to engage in imaginative role play based on own first-hand experiences. They will explore and create voices, learn to sing songs and rhymes, and share and perform stories. In PE the children will have the opportunity to explore movement to music focusing on movement stances and travelling. They will listen and respond to Gustav Holst's 'Mars' from the composition 'The Planets' through sound production and vocal exploration.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Self-Regulation

We will continue to support children in talking about their feelings and finding strategies to manage these. The theme for our circle time sessions will be 'Dreams and Goals'. Children will understand what a challenge is and the importance of perseverance. They will identify personal goals and understand how to work towards them, including discussions on long term career aspirations. The children will identify words of kindness and encouragement to use when supporting others and celebrating achievements.

Managing Self

Children will continue to develop confidence in trying new activities and experiences demonstrating growing independence, resilience and perseverance. Children will continue to understand the importance of hygiene, particularly handwashing and keeping our bodies healthy. Children will take part in PE lessons and explore what happens to their bodies when they are active and show understanding of the need for safety when tackling new challenges and consider and manage some risks.

Building relationships

Children will be able to initiate conversations, attend to and take account of what others say. They will continue to explain their own knowledge and understanding, and asks appropriate questions of other. Children will learn to take steps to resolve conflicts with other children, e.g. finding a compromise.

Maths

Number

Children will take part in daily Mastering Number sessions. Focusing on subitising, cardinality, ordinality, counting, composition and comparing within 10.

Numerical Patterns

The children will also explore mathematical concepts through practical activities using the White Rose Maths Scheme. They will explore themes including; 'Introducing Zero', 'Comparing numbers to 5', 'Composition of 4 & 5', 'Comparing Mass and Capacity', '6,7,8', 'Combining two amounts' and 'Making pairs'.

Understanding the World

People, Culture and Communities

Children will enjoy joining in with family customs and routines. They will talk about and understand how we can help others when they need it. They will be exploring the concept of prayer and learning the biblical story of the Good Samaritan.

The Natural World

Children will look closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change in the weather and seasons. Our science topic this term will be 'Everyday Materials'.

Past and Present

Children will learn to talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They will explore the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books and multimedia explored in class. Focusing this term on Space Exploration.