



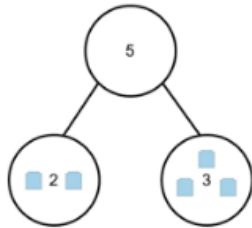
Happy New Year to you all. We hope you have had a lovely Christmas and want to say a massive thank you for your very generous gifts, cards and messages at the end of last term. The children had a very successful first term in school, we are very proud of all their achievements and are excited to see them grow and flourish as we move into the Spring term. Many thanks to those parents who are engaging with 'Tapestry' our online learning journal. It is lovely to see what the children are doing at home and nice to read your comments on the observations we have done in school. If you are having problems with your login details or accessing Tapestry, please email us via the school office and we will help with logging in.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and patience. We appreciate that the current climate makes your child's first year in school not as any of us had planned. We are missing being able to invite you into our setting and share our environment with you but we are delighted with how the children have settled and feel that even in these challenging circumstances we have developed positive home-school relationships with you all – so thank you!

Maths

We will continue to use a range of practical concrete and pictorial resources to support the children in developing their understanding.

Number bonds within 5 – We will be sorting objects into two groups then we will be using a part whole model to physically split a number of objects into two groups.



Numbers to 10 – We will be gaining our confidence with dealing with numbers and amounts to 10. We will be representing this using different models and different objects. We will be working on recognising amounts without the need for counting and recognising that the same amount of different objects will look different.

Comparing numbers within 10 – We will be using vocabulary fewer and more, we will be finding the difference between two numbers and comparing quantities.

Addition to 10 – We will be adding two parts to make the whole number and using the vocabulary associated with addition.


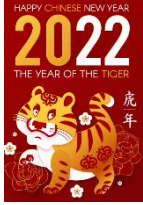

English

We will be looking at texts linked to our topic 'Let's Explore'. We will be reading the stories 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', 'Mr Gumpy's Outing' and 'In Every House on Every Street'. We will be predicting what might happen, talking about the characters in the story, retelling the story and writing captions and sentences linked to our work on the stories.



Phonics

We will continue to work through 'Phase 3' in our daily phonic sessions. We will be learning new sounds each week. In class we will be learning how to write these sounds and read and spell them in words. We will also spend some time this half term using our phonics to write captions and sentences for a range of purposes. Alongside this we will continue to learn out tricky words (the words that we can't sound out!) To help us with this in class the children have enjoyed learning 'The Tricky Word Songs'. If you YouTube 'Tricky word song phase 2 and 3' these can be found at home.

<p>RE - Our topic for this term is: Getting to know Jesus</p> <p>In our RE work we will be talking about how we can show our love for Jesus and thinking about what makes us and Him feel happy and sad. We will then be learning about how Jesus cured people who were ill by reading stories from the Bible.</p>	<p>Chinese New Year –</p> <p>As part of our work on learning about other faiths, in St Francis class we focus on celebrations from around the world. In class during the week beginning 31st January we will be making and tasting Chinese food, learning about the celebration, making decorations and sending cards.</p>	<p>PE – In PE this term we will be learning about: Sending and receiving</p> <p>The children are very fortunate this half term and will have PE with Mr Gibson twice a week. On a Tuesday and a Thursday. The sessions may be inside our school hall or outside depending on the nature of the lesson and the weather. Throughout the term the children will also be working on their balance, agility and co-ordination.</p>
<p>The children will be taught in a creative way through themes and topics, through a given theme we then cover key skills from all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Through our environment inside and outside we will encourage the children to be independent, curious and learn through exploration and play.</p> <p>Curriculum- This half term our topic is 'Let's Explore'</p> <p>Communication and Language As a class we will be listening to a range of stories, learning to ask questions about stories or pictures. Expressing our ideas and views on questions asked by the teachers. We will be showing our understanding by answering questions about our topic following what we have watched or read.</p> <p>Physical Development We will be moving in a range of ways, safely negotiating the space. We will be encouraging the children to use pencils effectively for writing and continuing to work on our letter formation.</p> <p>Health and Self Care We will continue to spend time talking to the children about the importance of hand hygiene.</p> <p>The World– We will be learning about our local area, our own houses and the streets we live in. We will be looking at maps and making our own maps. We will be looking closely at our own school environment and making maps of our school grounds.</p> <p>Technology – We will be using floor robots and programming different toys to move in the way we intend.</p> <p>People and Communities –We will be looking at photographs of Ilkley in the past and comparing these to Ilkley today. We will then move on to looking at famous explorers such as Marco Polo, Amelia Earhart, Matthew Henson and Jeanna Baret.</p> <p>Expressive Arts and Design: We will be looking at the work of Wassily Kandinsky and L.S. Lowry.</p>	  	
<p>To help your child at home you could -</p> <p><u>Reading</u></p> <p>Where possible we would recommend you hear your child read daily. When you have listened to your child read please write a comment or sign to show that the book has been read. Reading books will be changed twice a week. Please make sure that your child's book is kept in their book bag and brought to school every day. The teaching staff will listen to your</p>	<p>General information</p> <p><u>Outdoor clothing</u></p> <p>A significant part of the Early Years curriculum is physical development. Children will always have the option of going outside so it is important that they have the appropriate attire. Every child should have a warm outdoor coat and a pair of wellies that can be left in school. Children should also have a hat, scarf and some warm gloves.</p> <p><u>School fruit and milk</u></p>	

child read during the week and will need their reading book and reading record to do so.

Sound book

Please can you go through the sound book with your child daily. Encourage your child to make the sound, think of words that start with that sound and practise writing the letter. If they are confident at recognising the letter sound, try saying the sound to your child and encourage them to write the letter sound.

Homework –

We will continue to put weekly suggested activities on the online platform 'Tapestry'. This will link to the work we are covering in class. If your child is taking longer than 15 minutes to complete the tasks or is becoming distressed about it, please just let us know rather than insisting it is finished and causing your child unnecessary worry.

We are fortunate that every child is able to have a piece of fruit as their snack in school every day. We do not need you to provide your child with an additional snack.

Your child will receive complimentary milk until their 5th birthday. Please be aware that once they turn 5 they will no longer receive daily milk unless you subscribe through CoolMilk. Please email the office if you need further details.

Many thanks for your continued support. If you have any questions concerns please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office

Best Wishes

Mrs C Gilhooly