

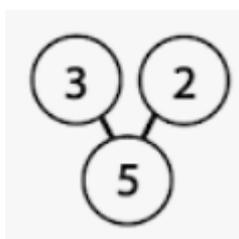


Happy New Year to you all. We hope you have had a lovely Christmas and want to say a massive thank you for your very generous gifts, cards and messages at the end of last term. The children had a very successful first term in school, we are very proud of all their achievements and are excited to see 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.

Maths

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

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.

Measure -Length, height and weight. We will be working practically to measure ourselves and objects. We will be using the appropriate vocabulary and comparing measurements using language such as 'tallest' 'shortest' 'lightest'

English

We will be looking at texts linked to our topic 'Animal Safari'. We will be reading the stories 'Iris and Isaac', 'Handa's Hen' and 'Monkey Puzzle'. 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.

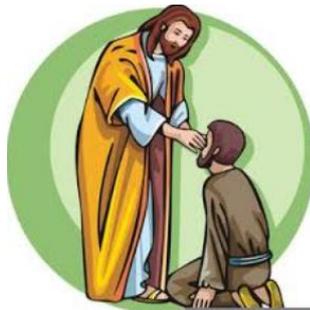


Phonics

We will begin 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.

RE - Our topic for this term is: Getting to know Jesus

In our RE work we will be talking about how we show our love for Jesus and thinking about what makes us Him feel happy and sad. We will then be learning about how Jesus cured people who were ill by reading stories from the Bible.



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Chinese New Year –

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 23rd January we will be making and tasting Chinese food, learning about the

PE – In PE this term we will be learning about:

Sending as a fundamental skill and jumping as a movement. We will also be having a weekly dance session.

The children are very fortunate this half term and will have PE with Mr Gibson on a **Thursday** and a Dance

	celebration, making decorations and sending cards.	session with our dedicated dance specialist on a Wednesday . 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.
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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.

Curriculum- This half term our topic is 'Animal Safari'

Communication and Language

Physical Development

Health and Self Care

The World– The children will learn about incredible animals that live worldwide. They will explore various animal habitats and compare the animals that live there with animals in their locality. They will learn how to care for pets and what all animals need to grow, survive and stay happy and healthy. They will explore animal features and find out how they survive in the wild. They will compare the ways that animals are similar and different and the importance of caring for our local and global environments.

Technology – The children will continue to use technology in and outside of our classroom for useful purposes such as taking photos and scanning QR codes to hunt for 'tricky words' or

People and Communities – The children will draw on knowledge from stories, maps and non-fiction texts and videos to compare similarities and differences between life in the country and life in others.

Expressive Arts and Design: We will be drawing animals looking closely at shapes and lines, we will be designing and making our own animal masks and be looking closely at camouflage and animal patterns.

To help your child at home you could -

Reading



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 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 –

General information

Outdoor clothing

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.**

School fruit and milk

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

We will continue to put weekly suggested activities on the online platform 'Tapestry'. This will link to the work we are covering in class. This is for your information and not compulsory.

Best Wishes
Mrs C Gilhooly and Mrs Fisher