



Reception – Spring 2

Watch Them Grow

As the weather begins to get warmer, this spring topic brings happiness with all the scientific wonders of new life. Our learning will help the children to understand the life cycle of many different animals and plants, including frogs, butterflies, bees and sunflowers. We will look at the multiple changes these animals and plants go through and compare these to the changes that we have gone through from being babies to our Reception Sacriston Stars!

As we observe some natural wonders of the world, the children will begin to understand the important role they play in showing care and concern for living things and our environment. This life skill is something that the children will learn, from understanding that others have needs and being able to contribute to the life of the classroom. Learning how plants grow and what they need to be looked after, is just one of the life skills this spring topic provides learning opportunities for.

As we look at the wonders that spring brings, this is when we continue to enthuse our children to becoming more resilient and continuing to love real hands on learning. This important topic teaches the children all about growing and changing, as well as the importance of keeping good health and well being.

Communication and Language (Speaking and Listening)

Our 'Wondrous Words' will continue to be the focus language when we look at our weekly text to continually give children new vocabulary that they can use immediately in their learning. Modelling of full sentences and conversational language is through story and role play. Children will be encouraged to use a range of vocabulary to talk about what they have made or done and evaluate their creation. We encourage all children to use the new vocabulary and speak in full sentences adapted to their own speaking ability.

Within areas such as the farm (role play), the areas will be enhanced so that the children can create their own stories, silly rhymes and use different voices for different roles.

Children who are needing a further boost in their confidence and articulation will take part in small group 'Boost' session and the Nuffield Early Language Intervention.

Literacy (Reading and Writing)

Our Reception children will continue to have daily taught lessons of phonics. The letter sounds are then used in the learning environment to practice letter formation and write cvc words. This term the children will begin to learn many of the key words for writing such as the, and, he, she and it. Children will continue practise the formation of letters at the same time as learning sounds, this There are a number of opportunities to write for purpose and pleasure in our environment, both indoors and outdoors. When children are confident in knowing the first sounds, they begin to be able to segment words and write the sounds they hear in them. This quickly in turn enables them to attempt to write captions and phrases.

As our children develop a deeper understanding of sounds and are able to blend them together, they will access simple texts matched to their current skills. We aim to foster a love of reading in all children and begin this very early on by sharing daily stories in class and provide the opportunity for you to continue to share these stories at home together.





Reading and writing is encouraged in all areas as there are key word labels the children can read with picture prompts, writing opportunities in the construction to show their plans and the children have to write their name on anything they design and make in the creative area.

Maths

Number and place value- We will introduce the number zero and then compare the numbers to 5. The children will gain a deeper understanding of the value of each number, how to compare two amounts and using key vocabulary such as 'altogether'. We develop the counting principle and apply these in a number of practical situations.

Compare Mass and Capacity- The children will begin to learn what mass and capacity are and what they looks like in real life situations. The children will be able to look at how to compare the weight of objects and the amount of liquid in different sized containers.

Through our continuous provision we offer the opportunity to develop vocabulary through construction using 3D shapes, exploring capacity and measure in the sensory station and use the positional language through physical movement in our outdoor provision.

PSED

This half term the children's learning will focus around their dreams and goals. We will focus on the importance of perseverance and how we can work towards achieving a goal in school. All learning will be focused around the children maintaining and strengthening relationships and the how we can support others achieve their goals. During this half term the children will do lots of fun challenges to understand the reward of achieving a goal.

Understanding the World (Geography, History, Computing, Science, Technology)

We will be learning about how to look after our environment and show care for living things. The children will be given the opportunities to learn about how plants grow and change, and what plants need to thrive. To understand this better the children will plant and look after their own plants, and we will look at the lifecycle as they grow. We will compare life cycles between different plants and animals such as sunflowers, frogs, butterflies, humans and bees.

The children will look at the different areas in school and how to show these on a map. We will look at what we include on a map to show outside and inside as well as paths and nature. Our learning outside and inside the classroom, will be supported by non-fiction books on flower life cycles and the natural world around us.

When using technology in the classroom, the children will be learning key life skills such as typing their name, saving their work and how to access applications successfully such as Purple Mash. Our focus this half term, is that the children can use a number of paint and art applications on the ipads to represent recognisable objects in their creations.





Expressive Arts (Music and Art)

We love to create and design in Early Years and now is the time to improving on our cutting and sticking skills, while using a range of materials, tools and techniques. The children will learn how to cut different materials and create collage. They will learn how to cut following lines and instructions, how to make holes using different tools and how to cut mouldable materials. to achieve different effects, including shading, blending, smudging and making marks.

Music is used throughout our Early Year's environment to encourage the children to explore different sounds of instruments and express emotions using them. The children will continue to learn many nursery rhymes and songs, many of which will support their counting in Mathematics. In our outside area the children can investigate the different sounds of the instruments and create their own songs.

PE

Our focus this term is agility. Improving agility is a vital skill for all movement activities and coordination. We will work on our ability to be able to manoeuvre ourselves around others, obstacles and manage our space safely no matter how we are moving. Our children understand the need for space during physical lessons but now need to anticipate other's movements and changes in physical circuits to adapt their agility. This will mean that the children will learn how use quick feet, quick hands and how to move our bodies to show our agility.

RE

As we continue our focus on the importance of special places. We will learn about the world being a special place and understanding the different cultures around the world are not the same as our own. We will then work together to create our own special place in school that we can showcase the things that we love as a class and this will be our 'peaceful place' that we can spend special calm time together to reflect on goodness in our school and life.

Within this half term, we will also look at the Christian festival of Easter and the traditions around this festival.

