YEAR GROUP OVERVIEW

North East Learning Trust

Nursery – Autumn 2

Topic

In Autumn 2, we will be exploring our new topic 'Light and Dark.' We will delve into comparing day and night. The children will investigate nocternal animals and how they like to come out at night. We will explore light from stars and look at the dark of the night and how we can use torches and light to see.

Communication and Language (Speaking and Listening)

Language is a key focus for us in Nursery. Our 'Wondrous Words', new vocabulary from books we read, provide us with a starting point for nurturing new and exciting vocabulary. When children are accessing our stimulating provision, we encourage the use of simple sentences with 3-4 words and provide a strong model to develop this. We also develop the children's ability to ask questions and give a running commentary of what they are doing, particularly praising the use of new 'Wondrous Words'. Our topic themed role play areas encourage interaction with others in small groups alongside our small world and puppet play areas. Snack time is an ideal opportunity for language development – asking questions and developing manners such as please and thank you.

Literacy (Reading and Writing)

In Autumn 2, we will continue to model reading, using books and taking care of books; we take time to show the children how to hold books the correct way up, treat books carefully and develop a love of listening to and learning from both stories and non- fiction books. The children are encouraged to repeat words and phrases from stories that are read to them. Writing at this stage is simply mark making and chunky tools, such as crayons, become the children's first writing tool. Simple shapes such as vertical and horizontal lines, as well as circular shapes, are the expected method of recording.

Maths (Number and Shape, Space and Measure)

Singing number songs and listening to number stories happens continuously throughout the day. Adults model mathematical vocabulary such as one, two, three, more, less, lots and fewer, which helps the children to understand and apply their new maths based 'Wondrous Words' in both independent play and adult led activities.

We will engage in a variety of different counting focused activities, this will allow children to develop a sense of number and amounts. Awareness to shapes in the environment will continue, allowing children to access 2D and 3D shapes which are then described with mathematical vocabulary to support their understanding. This half term the children will also be learning about position and where things are. We will play games to describe where things are and this half term it might be 'Where is the polar bear?'

Personal Development (P.S.H.E.)
Our focus in PSHE will be celebrating differences! The children will learn that everyone is different, to include others when they play, to know how to help someone if they are upset and how to problem solve.

Understanding the World (Geography, History, Science and Computing)
In geography, we will be finding out about Artic environments and using simple geographical words to describe them. This topic is linked with our history, where we will find out about the life of Richard Weber, an explorer of the North Pole as well as building our own Artic environment. In science we will focus on polar habitats, about the different animals who live in the Artic environments. We will also be thinking about the range of natural materials and how they are used. Throughout all of these activities, we will learn how to use an Ipad to take photographs and use Mini-Mash on Purple Mash.

Expressive Arts (Art and Music)
Singing and preforming songs is at the heart of our nursery musical experience. We teach a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs to support this. Our fabulous environment allows children access to a range of percussion instruments where they can become composers in their own right. In art, we will continue to focus on simple drawing skills using a range of materials, tools, and techniques. Children are taught how to experiment with colour and design to create some of their first masterpieces.

Physical Development (P.E.)
Both gross and fine motor skill development is key at the nursery stage. Our ‘Finger Gym’ will provide many opportunities to manipulate objects such as pinching and posting objects. This half term the children will be introduced to structured movement through the topic of 'Fantasy and Adventure'. They will spend time learning basic principles of a PE lesson such as finding space, freezing on command, using and sharing equipment and working individually, with a partner and group. They will take part in activities which will develop fundamental movement skills such as running, jumping, skipping.

Religious Education (R.E.)
This half term the children will be learning about Christianity as we look at the importance of Advent and Christmas to Christians. We will be answering the question’ What does Christmas mean to me and others?’ We will be looking at the nativity story as well as learning songs about the key parts of the nativity and performing the story for our friends and family.