

### Understanding the World: We are Scientists

This term, children are learning to access our water play resources independently, by pulling up their sleeves, putting an apron on and being mindful of their clothes and the comfort of their friends. They are experiencing how forces act on water and items in the water.



### Literacy: We are Writers

Children are encouraged to try writing their name on their pictures, using their name card to copy or trace. They proudly show their mark-making in our gallery! In our daily phonics lessons, children practise correct letter formation on mini whiteboards as each letter sound is introduced. This year we are using a new scheme called Unlocking Letters and Sounds.

### We are Readers

Children should practise their reading skills daily at home – please see the guidance in their reading log. In our phonics lessons, children will learn to recognise letters, saying the sound and doing an action to help their recall. They will start to learn to blend sounds to read simple words.

### Mathematics: We are Mathematicians

At first, our curriculum focusses on mastering understanding of numbers 0-5. Children practise counting small groups of objects, using their 'pointing finger' to be accurate. They will start to learn the skill of subitising, recognising how many objects are in a small group without needing to count them. You could practise this in fun ways at home, eg looking at spots on dice!



### Personal, Social & Emotional Development:

#### We are self-aware

Children are already learning to "Grow their Gem Powers". These are key behaviours and mindsets that help us to learn. Children are practising using the Diamond power to organise their belongings and our class resources. They can practise using their Diamond power to tidy up at home, too! Children are getting to know the children and adults in their class and starting to understand the routines and expectations in school.



## Reception Curriculum Newsletter Term 1

### Physical development: We are strong movers

We are lucky to have many new resources in our garden to help develop children's body strength and gross motor skills. The children are already using planks, blocks and crates to build paths and balance. In classrooms they are practising crossing their legs when sitting together on the carpet. Children are also learning to develop a healthy toileting and handwashing routine in their new environment.



Children will be developing their fine motor skills by using lots of fiddly resources! Staff encourage the use of peg boards, Lego and spray bottles to build finger strength and hand control.

### General notices:

Your child's learning will be collected into a learning journal. We are no longer using Tapestry Online. Instead, there will be opportunities to look at your child's learning journal and celebrate their successes throughout the year.

### Communication and Language:

#### We are Speakers and Listeners

Children are developing the confidence to speak to others in a clear voice whilst playing or when requiring help. Adults support children by teaching key phrases, including "Please can you help me?", "Please can I have a turn?" and "Please stop, I don't like it." To support children's communication and understanding, staff encourage the use of Makaton signs. These hand gestures provide a visual signal alongside spoken words. Children are also growing their Sapphire power to focus, especially during Learning Together Time.



### Expressive Art and Design: We are Artists and Musicians

This term, children are learning to independently access our painting resources by finding an apron, using brushes and cleaning them between colours, leaving paintings on the drying rack and washing their hands.

