

Understanding the World: We are Scientists

This term, we are exploring the question 'What do animals and plants need to grow?' We will learn about plants and will plant our own bean. We will also be learning about the life cycle of animals and will have the opportunity to meet some real animals and a human baby!



Literacy: We are Writers



This term, we are continuing to use the sounds we know to write words and sentences. We can use our sounds to label our pictures, write sentences about what we have learnt and write signs to support our role play. We now know lots of digraphs (2 letters that make 1 sound) and some trigraphs (3 letters that make one sound) and are learning to independently apply these in our writing.

We are Readers

In our phonics lessons, we will practise spotting the digraphs and trigraphs that we know in words before we start to sound them out. We are practising reading back sentences after we have sounded out each word. We will try to 'backtrack' to reread the words we have already sounded out. Reading at home with a grown up is important to build up our stamina for reading longer sentences. Also keep practising the sight word sheets we already know, as well as each new sheet. We are really excited each time we get to take a new sheet home!

Physical development: We are strong movers

This term, we will continue to strengthen our fine motor skills with our weekly Funky Fingers Challenge! This is a challenge that helps strengthen our fingers to help us with our writing. We will learn to use our Pen Power (Point, Pinch, Push, Pencil Power!) to hold our pencil with a 'Tripod Grip' or 'Pincer Fingers'. As the weather continues to get warmer, we will enjoy spending lots of time moving around our outdoor area in the sunshine to strengthen our gross motor skills. We will continue to use all the outdoor resources to create our own games.



Personal, Social & Emotional Development:

We are self-aware

This term, we will be growing our diamond power by having the opportunity to be a class monitor. Every child will have opportunities to be responsible for an important job in our classroom and this will help to grow our independence ready for Year 1! We have also introduced a review session where we are able to look back at pictures from our independent learning time and plan how we will choose our learning in our next Gem Power Practise time.



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Mathematics: We are Mathematicians

This term, we will continue to practise our counting skills and will have lots of opportunities to practise these skills when we are tidying things away in our classroom. Lots of our pots have number labels now so we can practise counting out the right number of things into each part of our classroom.



In our maths sessions we will explore and represent number patterns within numbers to 10, including evens and odds and double facts. We will continue to explore the composition of numbers to 10 using various representations such as 10 frames. We will begin to develop a sense of magnitude when comparing numbers, for example, knowing that 8 is quite a lot more than 2, but 4 is only a little bit more than 2.

Dates for the diary:

- Monday 1st May - Bank holiday. School closed.
- Monday 8th May - Bank holiday. School closed.
- Wednesday 17th May - Class photos
- Friday 19th May, 9am - Story making performance! Come and watch your child tell you the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and have a look at their amazing learning from the year!
- Thursday 27th May - Real animals visiting Reception!
- Last day of term is Friday 26th May
- Term 6 starts on Monday 5th June

General notices:

- Please continue to write in your child's reading record daily to keep a log of their reading at home. These are checked in school each day.
- Please keep practising your child's sight words. We will check these each week ready to give them the next sheet.

Communication and Language:

We are Speakers and Listeners

This term, during our story making sessions we will begin by learning the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We will continue to use Makaton signs to add actions to our story and practising each day to build fluency and expression. Last term we performed 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' to Miss Counsell, Miss Adams and Mrs Horner and even made posters to help them find our performance! We are looking forward to performing our story to you at the end of this term, see date above!



Expressive Art and Design: We are Artists and Musicians

This term we will practise our observational drawing skills when drawing plants and flowers in our outdoor area. We will use a variety of tools and materials to create and express our ideas, creating the plants, flowers and animals we have learnt about. We will then be able to use our creations as props in our imaginative role play games! We will continue to learn a large repertoire of songs and will enjoy choosing to sing these with our friends in our Gem Power Practise times.