

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Communication, Language and Literacy

This term will be all about getting to know each other, encouraging the children to share information about themselves and their experiences. Each Monday, we will talk about what we did at the weekend, encouraging children to speak clearly and in correct grammatical sentences. They will then write a sentence or two about their news, encouraging the development of their emergent writing skills. Throughout the rest of the week, our main focus will be on Phonics, learning different phonemes (sounds) and their associated graphemes (written representations), and how we can blend them together to create words, aiding both reading and writing skills. In all adult-led activities, the children will be encouraged to hold a pencil correctly (using a pencil grip) and will have the opportunity to bring sound work home so that parents know what learning has been occurring and how to help practise at home.

In **Drama** on a Tuesday (with Mrs. O'Neill) we will be bringing stories that are themed around “starting school” to life using role play, games, facial expressions and freeze frames.

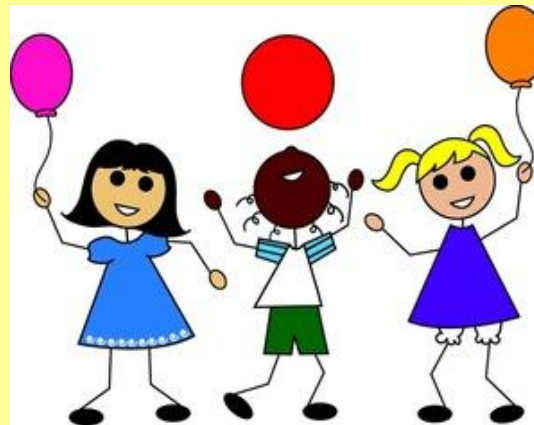
Mathematics

The focus in this first term will be on numbers up to 5, ensuring children’s understanding of the 5 main counting principles used in Mathematics. We will be using 5-frames to develop the key concept of subitising whereby children learn how to instantaneously recognise the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them. Once settled, we will engage in a meaningful activity each day, exploring mathematical concepts involving number and using the BBC series “Numberblocks” to help bring numbers and associated mathematical ideas to life. Activities will be planned to help develop young children’s natural problem-solving abilities in the context of mathematics. I will be modelling precise and correct mathematical language for the children to repeat and eventually use, providing a language structure to connect each mathematical idea to different contexts.

Autumn Term 2025

Marvellous

Me!



EYFS Cont’d

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will play lots of “getting to know each other” games – learning each other’s names and what individual children like/don’t like – and will discuss feelings about starting school. In weekly lessons with Mrs. Barry, we will be discussing “Being me in my world” and will cover concepts such as understanding how it feels to belong and that we are similar and different; enjoying working with others to make school a good place to be; understanding why it is good to be kind and use gentle hands; and learning what being responsible means.

Physical Development

In weekly PE lessons on a Thursday, we will be taking part in activities which will develop fundamental movement skills such as running, jumping and skipping. In addition, we will also have plenty of opportunities to improve our overall control and co-ordination in a range of topic related activities and whilst playing outside.

Understanding the World

We will talk about past and present events in our own lives and in the lives of family members and think about how these may have differed in times gone by. We will look at and compare local environments such as our homes and our school (how does it compare to nursery?). We will investigate ways of staying safe and healthy and will learn all about the different parts of our body (inside and out), including the five senses.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will paint self-portraits, and use chalk to create olden-day style family portraits. We will look at Autumnal colours and use these to inspire some creative activities. The “Making Table” will always be available for independent use as well as “Doodle Books” in which we can put anything we like! The latter part of the term will naturally include LOTS of festive-style creative activities (usually featuring a vast amount of glitter!) We will learn lots of topic-related songs and poems and will use percussion instruments to add accompaniments to music and to sound out syllables in our names. Our role-play area will be a Home Corner.

Characteristics of Effective Learners

ENGAGEMENT

We will encourage the children to explore by showing them our own interest in discovering new things. We will ensure that resources are relevant to children’s interests and will plan first-hand experiences and challenges appropriate to their development.

MOTIVATION

We will support children to enable them to choose activities – what they want to do and how they will do it – and will ensure they have time and freedom to become deeply involved in activities. We will make space and time for all children to contribute.

THINKING

We will model how to be a “thinker” – showing that we, as adults, don’t always know an answer, are curious and sometimes puzzled, and can think and find out. We will encourage open-ended thinking by not always settling on the first ideas and seeing what else is possible?

LEARNING TO LEARN

We will put all these characteristics to good use with our whole school focus on “Responsibility”, becoming responsible class members and drawing up a Class Charter together to help all of us learn more effectively.