

Half - Termly Topic Plan Reception - Spring 1

Communication and Language	We will continue to develop communication and language skills through our daily classroom routines and daily activities. The children will continue to have opportunities to talk in a range of contexts, to participate in conversations and discussions (in a one-to-one, small group or whole class context) and will be encouraged to express their thoughts, knowledge, ideas and opinions, using vocabulary drawn from their learning, their experiences and stories they have listened to. The children will also be encouraged to ask 'How?' and 'Why?' questions based on their observations and experiences and to ask questions to other children in the class to further their understanding or thinking. They will also be encouraged to respond to questions posed by both adults and peers. The children will be expected to listen to, and follow, simple and more complex instructions, enabling them to be more independent in their everyday routines. The children will also continue to listen to a range of stories, songs and rhymes and will be encouraged to respond to them, to retell them and to describe the characters and features of a familiar story.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	This half term, we will be focusing on looking after ourselves and how to keep ourselves healthy. We will continue to build our understanding of our feelings and thinking about those around us.
	Vocabulary we will use: healthy, balanced, fruits, vegetables, emotions, feelings, happy, sad, calm, angry etc.
Physical Development	<u>Gross Motor Skills</u> : With Kanga the children will learn some gymnastics. They will think about different ways of moving their bodies as well as focusing on spatial awareness and balancing. We will also play games in PE to practise negotiating space safely and moving in different ways. The children will continue to use their outside classroom to develop their gross motor skills.
CofE	<u>Fine Motor Skills</u> : Children will continue to work on writing at a table as well as having a range of fine motor activities in the classroom. We will continue to work on children holding their pencil with a tripod pincer grip. Children will work on forming capital and lowercase letters correctly in their phonic lessons. They will also be provided with Malleable Materials (clay, playdough, foam, slime etc), Scissors to further develop
	their cutting skills and a range of small equipment to support their finger strength and hand dexterity. They will be encouraged to draw and paint on large scales, both on the floor and at vertical easels and whiteboards. The children will participate in 'Pen Disco' sessions, enabling them to further develop an effective pencil grip and to make marks within a fun, playful activity.
Literacy	We will start to partake in 'Drawing Club' lessons to build our comprehension skills, engagement with stories and our vocabulary. We will focus on a different story each week and do drawing and writing activities around the story. We will continue to work on being 'brave' writers and having a go.

Maths	We will continue to do phonics every day and learn actions with our new sounds as well as the letter formation. This half term we will learn: y, z, zz, qu, ch, sh, th, ng, ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or. The tricky words we will learn are: he, she, we, be, me, was, my. We will continue to have daily story time and continue to read with adults at least twice a week. Any reading and phonics practise you can do at home is always helpful! Vocabulary we will use: digraph, trigraph, phoneme, grapheme This half term we will be working on 'Alive in Five'. We will introduce zero to the children, work on comparing numbers to five and the composition of numbers four and five. The children will then move onto comparing mass and capacity. Children will then move onto 'Growing 6, 7, 8'. This includes learning about numbers 6, 7 and 8 and
	combining two amounts as well as learning about doubles and even and odd numbers. Vocabulary we will use: double, odd, even, zero, one more, one less, heavier, lighter, float, sink, more, most, least
Understanding the World	Past and Present: We will learn about famous past expeditions to the South Pole and look at pictures to support our learning. We will discuss how we know that these happened in the past. <u>The Natural World:</u> The children will be encouraged to think about Winter and Cold Climates / Polar Regions over the next few weeks. They will learn about cold weather, exploring frost, ice and, hopefully, snow, and will think about the changes in our environment during Winter. They will explore the school grounds and will look for signs of winter in it. The children will also think about the clothes we wear in winter and why we wear them and how they keep us warm. The children will explore ice and shadows and will participate in experiments and 'provocations' to develop their thinking and understanding and to ask, and answer, 'How,' 'Why,' and 'What' questions. The children will also participate in the RSPB 'Big Garden Birdwatch' and will make bird food for the birds in our school garden. We will also explore shadows as part of our science work linked to 'The Gruffalo's Child'. <u>People, culture and communities:</u> Reception will learn about Chinese New Year and about different traditions around the world. We will also be learning about 'Which places are special and why?' in RE. We will also consider where the polar regions are and what live is like there using pictures, We will discuss how life is similar and different to our lives in Embsay.
Expressive Arts and Design	<u>Creating with materials</u> : The children will be developing their cutting skills to create a Matisse inspired colourful collage. They will then be mixing tints and shades to paint a winter scene of Embsay Crag. Vocabulary we will use : cutting skills, collage, complementary colours, tints and shades, mixing colours, paint <u>Being imaginative and expressive</u> : We will continue to sing and learn different nursery rhymes linked to our maths and topic work. We will also use our role play, small worlds and puppets for the books we are reading to encourage children to invent, adapt and recount stories.