

Foundation Stage Curriculum

Newsletter Spring 1 2012

What are you good at? What would you like to be able to do?

This half term we are learning "All About Us!" Look on the back for Home Tasks!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development-We will be encouraging our new children to develop a positive approach to starting school and all the new experiences it will bring: the September children will learn about helping them to settle in. We will discuss how similarities and differences are to be valued. Our new SEAL topic is "Going for Goals."

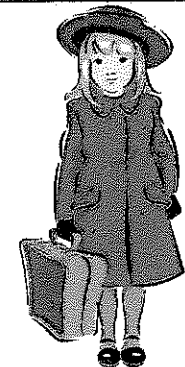
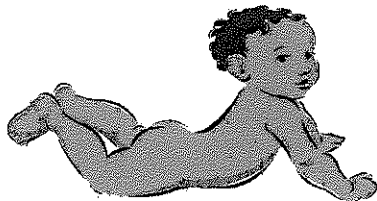
Creative Development- We will be using the role play areas; "Winter world/Bear Cave/At Home". We will learn how to play different percussion instruments.

Physical development-We will be playing games which involve using space safely and listening carefully to instructions. We will be thinking about the changes that happen to our bodies when we are active and will have the opportunity to use balls and other small equipment. Please ensure your child is properly equipped for cold and wet weather play, as we do go outside every day!

Communication, Language and Literacy- We will be reading lots of different books, both fiction and non-fiction. We will be using Talk for Writing, for example, retelling, 'We're going on a bear hunt'. We will be thinking about rhyming words and the letter sounds/phonemes in simple words.

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy - We will be counting to 20 & beyond! We will be thinking about the 'next' number in a sequence and playing games which use the language of position eg next, behind, above, in

Knowledge and Understanding of the World- We will be thinking about how we have changed since we were babies by looking at photos. Children will learn about baby care from a visiting health professional. We will develop our skills on the computer.



How can you help your child at home?

- **READING:** Please keep reading regularly with your child. We can see how a child's reading skills improve when you enjoy sharing books with them each day at home - it makes a HUGE difference. Thank you for all your efforts to support this crucial task. Always ask us if you have any queries about this.
- **HOME TASKS:**

SEAL~ GOING FOR GOALS: Talk to your child about the things they are learning to do now that they are 5 (or almost 5!). Help them to understand that learning something new can be a challenge, like riding a bike without stabilisers, skipping with a rope by themselves or remembering letter names. This is often called a *GOAL*. What goals do they, you and other members of the family have? Can you work on one together? How can you help one another to achieve a goal? We will be learning "Keep going, Keep going, you can do it" to encourage each other to work on our goals at school!

ALL ABOUT ME ~ ALL ABOUT OUR FAMILY ~ Share photographs and stories at home to discuss how your child has changed and developed. What can they do now that they couldn't do when they were babies? Share photos and stories of other family members too, talking about 'then' and 'now'.

WRITING ~ we are encouraging all children to write their name with the correct letter formation. Please help them to do this at home - ask for advice if you are unsure about this.

The Request Spot!

Thank you to everyone who is bringing in boxes of tissues for the classroom and junk modelling materials. We love to have interesting boxes, tubes, plastic lids and trays to make a huge variety of models. Huge cardboard boxes are particularly welcome; so if you have a new washing machine, please bring us the box!

The children LOVE baking - could you come in once a week (or even every two weeks) for an hour and take four children at a time to bake in our kitchen? We will show you what to do and last year's parents thoroughly enjoyed helping in this way. Talk to your class teachers!

Do you have a special talent or skill? Do you play a musical instrument? Can you tap dance? Do you like reading stories (especially in another language?) Have you received a special award you could show us, do you enjoy an interesting hobby? Don't be shy - come and tell us about it and see if we can organise for you to show the children - they are always enthusiastic about talking with visitors.

Physical Development:

To keep everyone safe, please ensure that your child

- does not wear any jewellery at school,
- can run, and climb on the climbing frame safely, in their shoes
- has a t shirt and shorts for indoor PE days - plimsolls are not required.

Thank you for your help.