



Dear Nursery Parents,

Our topic this half term is 'Going Places'.

As you know we are setting tasks for the children to complete throughout the week, as well as RE, maths, literacy, phonics, art and science activities on Tapestry. Please continue to share photographs and videos of any of your own learning, or any walks or adventures you have embarked on.

The topic for RE is 'Sorrow and joy'. On returning to school the children will talk about their experiences of Pancake Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. Through a range of activities the children will learn about the importance of kindness, the importance of saying sorry and knowing that we can ask Jesus for help to make the right choices. We will learn through Jesus' teachings that like him, we must forgive those who hurt us.

If your child would like additional activities to complete, please choose from any of the activities below and refer to the curriculum grid which links in with our topic for this half term.

Maths

We will be continuing to recite numbers up to 10, count objects with one to one correspondence and recognise and order numbers to 10. Please find below some activities you can do to support maths learning this half term:

- Count as much as you can and count whenever you can – count together, as well as letting your child see and hear you counting. Practise chanting numbers and start from different numbers – 5, 6, 7, etc. Count real objects – your child's toy cars, pencils, shoes or the number of stairs in your home. Ask your child to help you sort cutlery or laundry, counting as you sort. When you go out for a walk, count your footsteps, the number of cars or houses you see etc.
- Help your child to learn the numerals by exploring their shapes. Have fun forming numbers in sand with a stick, on the pavement with chalk or on sheets of paper with finger paints. Make numbers out of modelling clay. Form numbers out of small objects such as pieces of pasta or beads. Try holding your child's finger and forming the number in the air. All these activities can help your child to become more familiar with numerals and enjoy themselves in the process!
- Sing counting songs, such as '10 Green Bottles', '1, 2, Buckle My Shoe' and '1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive'. Singing songs is a good way for children to become familiar with counting.
- Sing number songs which focus on counting on and counting back in ones. E.g. 5 fat sausages sizzling in the pan, 5 little speckled frogs. Create number props to match the rhyme.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-counting-songs/zn67kmn>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/number-songs-from-numberblocks>
- Talk about numbers around you. Numbers are all around us, from calendars to the remote control, the telephone to car registration plates. Try pointing out numbers when you're out and about – on front doors, signs and the front of buses. Talking about numbers around you early and often will show your child that numbers are part of everyday life.
- Go on a number hunt around the house. Create a tally chart with your findings.
- Choose a 'Number of the Week' and see how many times you can spot this number, around the house, out in the street or in the supermarket.

- Order toys by size and use key mathematical language. E.g. Smaller, larger, bigger etc.
- Draw objects in your home that match a given shape. E.g. Door- rectangle.
- Count actions- claps, jumps, hops, steps.
- Explore these counting games- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/mathsgames/3-5-years/counting>
- Play some board games e.g. snakes and ladders, dominoes.
- Create a pattern with 2 colours/ shapes/ objects.
- Have a maths focus when reading books to develop early counting and number recognition skills. Take time to talk about what your child can see on each page. Count objects on the page, and compare the number of objects from page to page. Look at the page numbers and say them together.

Phonics

We will continue with phase 1 phonics next half term to develop children's listening skills and awareness of sounds in the environment.

- Read stories that include rhyming words.
- Sing along to some nursery rhymes. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/curations/nursery-rhymes>
- Listen and play with familiar stories <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/eyfs-listen-and-play-billy-goats-gruff/zr3yt39>
- Go on a rhyming hunt around the house. What objects can you find that rhyme?
- Experiment- What different sounds can we make with our bodies? What body parts can we use to make noise? Can you make a quiet/loud sound?
- Initial sounds- Find objects around the house. What sound is at the beginning of the word?
- Make and talk about the different sounds we can make with our voices.
- Close your eyes. What sounds can you hear around you?

Literacy

- Opportunities to look at book independently.
- Share stories- Can you predict what the story is going to be about just by looking at the front cover? What do you think is going to happen next? Retell the story in your own words. What happened at the beginning, middle and end? Who are the characters in the story? How are they feeling? Suggest how the story might end. Compare plots and the feelings of characters with children's own experiences.
- <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> username: jan21 Password: Home Resources⇒ Phase 1
- Sing along to this phonics song. YouTube ⇒ Phonics song 2
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPVbJ-IaHIw>
- Phase 1 Phonics games: <https://www.phonicsbloom.com/uk/game/list/phonics-games-phase-1>
- Focus on meaningful print such as a child's name, words on a cereal packet or a book title, in order to discuss similarities and differences between symbols.
- Help children to understand what a word is by using names and labels and by pointing out words in the environment and in books.
- Support your child with writing for a purpose. E.g. shopping lists, cards to friends and family.

- Create a picture book.
- Write labels for models your child has made.
- Continue to support your child in recognising and writing their own name.
- Make books of activities you have been doing, using photographs of them as illustrations.

Useful websites for reading:

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks1-school-pupils/100-best-picture-books-to-read-before-you-are-5-years-old/>

Activities to develop fine motor control

- Threading and lacing with a variety of sized laces.
- Playdough activities that involve rolling with hands or a rolling pin, hiding objects such as coins in the play dough or just creative construction.
- Scissor projects that involve cutting out geometric shapes to then paste them together to make pictures such as robots, trains or houses.
- Drawing or writing on a vertical surface.
- Every day activities that require finger strength- opening containers, using a knife and fork.
- Sing songs that involve making finger movements e.g. Peter Pointer, Incy Wincey Spider.
- Junk Modelling: Make things using boxes, egg cartons, wool, paper and cello tape masking tape.
- Construction: Building with Duplo, Lego, Mobilo or other construction materials.
- Finger puppets: Make up a story and act it out.
- Turning the pages in a book.
- Drawing activities: Scribble on paper and chalkboard using different sorts of writing materials e.g. marker pens, chalk, paint, wax crayons. Draw on different surfaces e.g. smooth paper, paper over sandpaper.