

Subject	What will be learning about?	How can families support at home?
Literacy	Throughout the autumn term, we will enjoy listening to a range of core texts. Each week, a focus book will provide the stimulus for our learning activities. Children will learn about the features of a book such as the front cover and title and recognise that print is read from left to right, top to bottom. To support our learning about ourselves, our families and friends, we will read books such as ‘Goldilocks and the Three Bears’, ‘Six Dinner Sid’ and ‘What Makes Me a Me’. We will enjoy rhyming activities linked to books such as ‘Oi, Frog!’ and ‘Each, Peach, Pear, Plum’. Phonic teaching begins early in the autumn term, following the Read, Write Inc. scheme. Children will enjoy learning letter sounds and recognise the initial sound in words such as ‘d for dog’. As the term progresses, the children will use their developing sound knowledge to sound out and blend simple words such as ‘c-a-t → cat’. You will receive more information about how you can support reading at home. We love to make marks in Reception and right from the start, we encourage children to share their ideas using drawings, shapes and developing letter writing. We will make purposeful marks using line and pattern before practising the sounds we are learning in phonics. As the children grow in confidence, they will begin to use letters to communicate meaning such as labelling a drawing of an apple with an ‘a’ (and later, other sounds in words). We will encourage early mark making for a range of purposes such as writing a shopping list in the role play area or a sign for their model. Throughout autumn term, the children will practise writing their names carefully.	Read Together Daily • Share a variety of texts: stories, poems, comics, recipes, signs, and instructions. • Discuss what’s happening in books shared together. • Ask open-ended questions like “Why do you think that happened?” or “What might happen next?” • Practise new phonic sounds daily (and later, complete word reading tasks) 2. Build Vocabulary Through Conversation • Use rich and varied language in everyday talk. • Introduce new words naturally and explain their meanings. • Play word games like “I Spy” or spot rhyming patterns in nursery rhymes. 3. Encourage Writing for Real Purposes • Provide frequent opportunities for drawing and writing (which may begin as mark-making before extending to writing phonic sounds). • Practise writing own name with a capital letter at the beginning only (the rest in lower case). • Write shopping lists, birthday cards, or thank-you notes together. Adults can model this initially, as children’s confidence grows, they will begin to join in with their own marks and phonic writing. • Practise writing new phonic sounds to label e.g. a ‘c’ for cars when sorting out toys at home. • Create stories, comics, or poems—let creativity lead! An adult can scribe ideas. 4. Make Spelling and Grammar Fun • Practise reading and writing tricky ‘red’ words (more info to follow). 5. Support Phonics and Early Reading • Use phonics games and flashcards to reinforce school learning. • Attend the parent workshop at school: teaching phonics • Encourage sounding out unfamiliar words. • Celebrate progress, no matter how small. 6. Model a Love of Reading and Writing • Let children see you reading books, newspapers, or writing notes. • Visit the library together and let them choose books. • Talk about your favourite books or authors. 7. Explore our key texts together at home (information about these will be shared on Tapestry) • Read the book together at home • Try the suggested tasks e.g. taste porridge when exploring the Goldilocks story! • Retell a simple version of the story in your own words. 8. Support Homework: • Your child will bring home a book from school and soon be issued with a Page Ticker online reading record (further information to be issued). Please ensure they bring the book to school each day.

Maths	As the children settle into school life, we introduce them to many new classroom routines. Maths is a key part of these, and we make the most of every opportunity for children to apply their developing mathematical knowledge. For example, children will show understanding of number as they recognise that three children can play in the sand tray or count out the correct number of aprons needed for a creative task. Similarly, we show awareness of time as we talk about the morning calendar and look at our daily timetable. These experiences help children to embed understanding of mathematics in meaningful contexts. Throughout the term, we will be learning about matching and sorting, comparing size and exploring patterns. We will also look carefully at numbers to five, developing a deep understanding of the composition of each number. To do this, we will use lots of practical, hands-on activities to sort, compare and count objects. A core skill within this is <u>subitising</u>—the ability to instantly and intuitively recognise a small number of objects without counting them. An example would be quickly noticing that there are three bowls on the role play table. As we later explore larger totals, we will reinforce careful counting skills by lining up or moving objects, pointing and saying number names steadily as we count.	1. Build a Positive Attitude Towards Maths • Encourage a growth mindset: Praise effort, not just results. • Avoid saying things like “I’m not good at maths” — it can influence children’s attitudes. • Celebrate small wins to build confidence. 2. Make Maths Part of Everyday Life • Cooking: Use recipes to explore simple measurements and use language to describe weight, time etc. • Shopping: Practice addition, subtraction and counting as you e.g. choose four apples and two pears. • Time: Talk about clocks, calendars, and routines. • Games: Play board games or card games that involve subitising, counting, matching (e.g. Orchard Toys games, snakes and ladders). 3. Support Homework • Play the home learning maths activities together • Ask open-ended questions like: • “How did you work that out?” • “Can you explain your thinking?” • Encourage them to make marks and talk through their learning e.g. drawing four circles to represent four biscuits. How many if you add two more? 4. Use Technology Wisely • Explore maths apps and websites like: • CBeebies website- Numberblocks, Number 1 Newton Avenue. • Set screen time limits and use tech as a complement, not a replacement. 5. Stay Connected with the School • Attend parent-teacher meetings and maths workshops. • Ask teachers about: • The methods being taught (e.g. subitising, number tracks). • How to reinforce learning at home. • Use school newsletters to stay updated. 7. Explore subitising (recognising small groups of objects instantly) • Dice games • Noticing groups of objects around you (to four) e.g. three birds sitting on the fence, two bananas in the bowl
Physical Development (PD)	Physical skills including control and coordination are at the very heart of our learning. As we explore, enquire and play, we use a range of fine and gross motor skills. These are particularly crucial for the development of writing and ensure children can get their ideas onto paper.	1. Encourage Daily Physical Activity • Aim for at least 60 minutes of movement each day — walking, cycling, dancing, or playing outside. • Make it fun: obstacle courses in the garden, family walks, or dance-offs in the living room. • Celebrate effort and participation, not just skill or winning.

	Throughout the autumn term, we will be focusing on developing our upper body strength and postural control. We will practise throwing, catching, climbing and carefully carrying equipment such as trays with objects on. We will develop the fine motor strength needed for holding tools, paintbrushes and pencils. We will enjoy using playdough, stickers, threading, finger painting, tweezers and small objects etc. to strengthen the muscles in our hands. We will practise using scissors carefully and with control, holding them in the correct position. The children will also take part in a structured PE lesson each week. These will focus on establishing routines for the session and key ball skills such as rolling, catching and kicking.	2. Support Participation in Sports and Clubs • Encourage children to try different activities: football, swimming, gymnastics, martial arts, etc. • Attend local clubs or community sports sessions. • Be positive about trying new things — even if they're unsure 3. Promote Healthy Habits • Talk about the importance of exercise, hydration, sleep, and nutrition. • Help children understand how being active supports their mental health and wellbeing. • Model healthy choices in everyday life. 4. Teach Teamwork and Fair Play • Reinforce values like respect, cooperation, and resilience. • Talk about winning and losing gracefully. • Encourage children to support others and celebrate team success. 5. Stay Involved with School PE • Ask what sports or activities they're doing in PE. • Support school sports days, swimming lessons, or inter-school competitions. • Make sure children have the right kit and feel confident taking part. 6. Build Confidence and Motivation • Praise effort, improvement, and persistence. • Help children set small goals: "Can you run a bit further today?" • Avoid comparing them to others — focus on their personal progress.
Communication and Language (C&L)	Communication and language skills are a crucial part of learning. Our teaching focuses are designed to ensure all children have the opportunity to become excellent communicators. We know that success in this area has a strong link to improved educational outcomes. Throughout the term, we will be developing the key skills for becoming a good listener and communicator. We will join in with listening games and spend lots of time talking to each other about our ideas in full sentences. Children will learn vocabulary linked to our key texts each week, building a bank of rich language to use in play. As children settle into school routines, we will teach them social phrases to support their interactions with friends and the adults who look after them.	Speaking & Listening • Play 'I Spy' using sounds, colours, or objects around the house. • Take turns in 'Guess the Object' (hide an item in a bag, describe it, and let your child guess). • Encourage retelling favourite stories using books, puppets, or toys. • Play 'Simon Says' to practise listening carefully and following instructions. • Have 'talk time' each day where your child shares something they did or enjoyed. Vocabulary & Storytelling • Read stories together and ask open questions: 'What do you think will happen next?' • Make up silly or imaginative 'once upon a time' stories together. • Use small world toys (e.g., animals, cars, dolls) to act out adventures. • Create a story bag/box with objects inside and invent a story using them. • Play category games (e.g., name animals, foods, things you see on a walk). • CBeebies – exploring Yakka Dee videos are a great way to support vocab development, particularly for those new to English. Rhyme, Rhythm & Sound • Sing nursery rhymes and action songs together. • Play rhyming games (cat/hat/mat) and encourage your child to add a word. • Clap or tap simple rhythms and ask your child to copy. • Enjoy listening walks – pause and describe the sounds you hear. • Read rhyming books and let your child finish the rhyming word.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)	We will learn about our school rules, thinking about what makes us special and how to be a good friend. We will learn about simple emotions and know that these can be shown on our faces, with body language and the tone of our voice. We will enjoy using books such as <i>'The Colour Monster'</i> to explore feelings. Children will learn the names of key adults who look after them at school and find out what to do if they need help or are worried about something. In the second half of the autumn term, we will enjoy finding out about celebrations such as Diwali, bonfire night, birthdays and Christmas!	1. Encourage Open Conversations • Create a safe space for children to talk about their feelings, friendships, worries, and questions. • Use everyday moments (e.g. after school, during meals) to check in emotionally. • Listen without judgment and validate their feelings: <i>"It's okay to feel that way."</i> • Use correct vocabulary for body parts and discuss questions about these in a calm, factual way. More information will be shared around the NSPCC Pantosaurus initiative as we discuss privacy around body parts in class. 2. Teach Life Skills at Home • Involve children in age-appropriate tasks: • Making healthy food choices • Resolving conflicts calmly • Taking responsibility for chores • Talk about decision-making and consequences in real-life situations. 3. Promote Emotional Wellbeing • Help children name and understand their emotions. • Practice calming strategies together: deep breathing, mindfulness, or quiet time. • Model healthy ways to cope with stress or disappointment. • Talk about the people who keep them safe and who they can ask for help (at home and school) 4. Encourage Respect and Inclusion • Talk about diversity, kindness, and fairness. • Read books or watch shows that reflect different cultures, families, and experiences. • Encourage empathy by asking: <i>"How do you think they felt?"</i> or <i>"What would you do?"</i> 5. Support Health and Safety Learning • Talk about personal hygiene, healthy eating, and staying active. • Discuss healthy amounts of screen time. • Reinforce messages about body autonomy and safe relationships in age-appropriate ways. 6. Stay Involved with School PSHE Topics • Ask what they're learning in school and follow up at home. • Support school initiatives like anti-bullying week, mental health awareness, or charity events. • Use school newsletters to stay informed about PSED themes in school.
Understanding the World (UW)	The children will spend lots of time exploring their new school environment and notice the changing of the seasons. We will use our senses as we explore the world around us. As part of our 'celebrations' topic, children will find out about special events in their own lives and others. They will talk	People, Culture & Communities • Make a family photo album or simple family tree together. • Role-play different community helpers (doctor, shopkeeper, firefighter). • Explore maps – draw a simple map of your house, garden, or local walk.

	about things that have happened in the past such as going to nursery and previous birthday celebrations. In Reception, we explore languages by answering the register using greetings from around the world.	• Talk about and try foods from different cultures. • Celebrate a festival (e.g., Diwali, Lunar New Year) through crafts, stories, or cooking. The Natural World • Go on a nature walk to collect leaves, feathers, or stones – sort and compare them. • Plant seeds and keep a growth diary with photos or drawings. • Make a simple weather chart and record daily weather. • Build a bug hotel or look under stones/logs to spot insects. • Do a floating and sinking experiment with household objects. • Freeze toys in ice and let your child explore how to melt them. Technology & Everyday Life • Explore safe buttons and switches (torches, timers, remote controls). • Use a camera/tablet/phone to take photos of favourite things. • Cook or bake together – talk about changes when mixing, heating, or cooling. • Play 'coding' with toys – give simple directional instructions (forward, turn, stop). • Listen to different environmental sounds and guess what they are.
Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)	We are very lucky to have a fantastic creative and outdoor area to support our learning. Children will explore pattern and line on a large and small-scale using print making and painting. We will explore the work of Bridget Riley, Kandinsky and Yayoi Kusama as we create using spots, dots and lines. Children will enjoy music and movement using ribbons, streamers and instruments and think about how dance is used as part of many celebrations around the world. We will also take part in daily singing sessions with a focused music lesson once a week.	1. Encourage Creative Expression at Home • Provide a variety of materials: paper, paints, crayons, glue, scissors, recycled items, fabric scraps. • Let children explore freely — it's about the process, not perfection! • Celebrate their artwork by displaying it at home. 2. Explore Different Art Forms • Try drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, printing, or digital art, making music. • Use everyday items to create (e.g. potato printing, cardboard 'junk modelling' sculptures). • Encourage experimenting with textures, colours, shapes and sounds. 3. Visit Art Galleries or Exhibitions • Explore local galleries or museums — many have free entry and family-friendly activities. • Talk about what you see: <i>"What do you like about this painting?"</i> or <i>"How do you think the artist made that?"</i> • Look at art from different cultures and time periods. 4. Read Books About Art and Artists • Choose picture books that explore famous artists (e.g. Kandinsky, Yayoi Kusama). • Read stories that inspire creativity and imagination. • Use books as a springboard for creating your own versions of famous artworks. 5. Encourage Observation and Imagination • Go on a "texture walk" or "colour hunt" outdoors. • Ask open-ended questions:

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• “What do you see?”• “What could this be?”• “How would you change it?”• Let them invent their own characters, patterns, or imaginary worlds. |
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6. Stay Involved with School Art Projects

- Ask what they have been creating at school.
- Support home learning or sketchbook tasks with time, space, and encouragement.
- Attend exhibitions or displays of children’s work at school.