

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Making relationships: We will continue to look at the theme of 'Getting on and falling out' this half term. Here we will concentrate on friendships, resolving conflicts, corporation and team work.

They take account of one another's ideas about how to organise their activity.

Self confidence and self awareness: The children have grown in confidence greatly since last half term with most children keen to share their ideas in whole class situations. This half term we are looking to develop this further ready for our assembly. We will also be introducing lots of new activities in preparation for this such as t-shirt painting, rocket building and sensory play which will encourage children to develop the confidence to risk take and have a go.

Children are confident to try new activities and say why they like some activities more than others.

Managing feelings and behaviour: There will be a large focus on the concept of 'making the right choice' this half term and acting like astronauts. The children will explore the thought processes of how to alter negative thoughts and behaviours into that which are positive, making them more aware about how their behaviours can affect others. We will also continue to promote respect in the classroom so that children look after our resources and always do what an adult asks of them.

They adjust their behaviour to different situations and take changes of routine in their stride.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will be encouraged to experiment with colour, texture, form and function as we design and make our own space themed t-shirts and moon rocks. During discovery time there will be many opportunities for the children to combine materials in imaginative ways as they make stick puppets, create gloopy paint star prints and moon walk collages. In music children will be using instruments to make their own space tunes and will be encouraged to combine skills previously learnt such as beat, rhythm and timbre.

Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them.

They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.

Being imaginative: The space theme lends itself well to encourage children to think imaginatively and use this to act out stories and take on roles of journeys through space. The role play will be our rocket headquarters where the children will go on space missions and visit the planets.

Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes. They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.

Mathematics

Shape, Space and Measure: We will be visiting 3D and 2D shapes and patterns during starters in many of our maths lessons to keep children familiar with these from last term. We will also be looking at language related to time discretely through our literacy lessons. Examples of these are the following; one day, the next day, that night etc.

They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.

Numbers: We will be continuing to recognise numerals to 20 and ordering these this term. We will also introduce subtracting single digit numbers through active and written methods. We will also be exploring doubling and halving numbers, showing children that they are opposite methods.

Children count reliably with numbers from one to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. Using quantities and objects, they add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. They solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.

Understanding of the World

People and Communities: Children will be learning about why some people celebrate Easter and explore the story of this. They will also be taking part in activities to explore some of the traditions linked to this celebration such as Easter bonnet making, making cards and of course making chocolate nests!

They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.

The World: The children will be learning about lots of different aspects linked to space such as the need to look after our planet, phases of the moon, how day and night occur and properties of materials which are reflective like the moon. As the seasons change the children will also be looking at how the environment changes during spring time.

They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes

Technology: This topic we will be concentrating on using devices to record images and video. Children will learn how to use cameras and tablets to do this and how to be creative with camera angles, composition and subjects.

Children recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They select and use technology for particular purposes.



Physical Development

Moving and handling: The children will continue with PE on Monday and Thursdays. In outdoor PE on Thursdays we will be focusing on moving in different ways and encouraging children to use coordinated movements, clockwise and anti-clockwise, in multi-level positions. We will also be focusing on the children's handwriting and aiming for children to consolidate their fine motor skills so that they consistently use clearly identifiable letters with the lead in lines and lead out lines. Finally the children will be encouraged to explore using equipment safely during discovery time as they experiment with spinning like earth using hula hoops, traveling in spaceships and trying to catch planet bubbles.

Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements. They move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space.

Health and Self-Care: Children will be encouraged to get changed in super speedy times during PE or when putting on costumes. Most children can now do this, we are just trying to develop the time in which they do. We will also continue to look at why astronauts need to stay fit and healthy and explore the special food they eat in space.

Children know the importance for good health, of physical exercise and a healthy diet, and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe.

Communication and Language

The focus this half term with listening and attention as well as understanding is developing the children's ability to sequence and retell key facts as well as exploring the meaning of descriptive words which we will use to describe planets in our solar system. Not only this but we will also be holding many discussions about important issues related to our world such as the importance of recycling and sun safety. With this we will be encouraging the children to listen with intent to what others are saying and respond with their own thoughts with relevant ideas.

They give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity

They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.

Speaking: Children will develop their knowledge and understanding of describing words as they learn about the different features of planets and stars. We will also be looking at 'dazzling words' to make our descriptions even better, which are essentially alternative meanings for words we commonly use. Finally we will be practicing how to alter our speech when speaking in front of large audiences, ready for our big assembly at the end of this half term where the children will showcase everything they have learnt during this topic.

Children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs.

Literacy

Reading: We will be encouraging children to consolidate their blending skills to enable them to read CVCC words and multi syllable words by 'chopping it up' eg farmyard would be read farm then yard before putting it all together. We will also be encouraging the children to discuss in depth what they have read on the page to develop their language comprehension skills. Some children who are ready will be starting weekly guided reading sessions to really progress these skills.

Children read and understand simple sentences. They use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately

Writing: This half term we will be using 'Talk4Writing' to explore descriptive language and how to sequence facts. We will be using the book 'There's no place like space' as our key text as it breaks the facts down into simple rhymes and encourages the children to explore new vocabulary. Children will have some unique writing opportunities, writing in moon dust and on t-shirts to develop their skills further. Children will be encouraged to write cvc and cvcc words with more independence when writing a simple sentence.

They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly (tricky words) and others are phonetically plausible.

Statements in bold are the Development Matters, Early Years assessments we will be focusing on this half term.

Any additional support on these at home would be greatly appreciated.