

Inspiring Curriculum Newsletter

Finches

Summer 2019



Our Themes: Mini beasts, Growing, The Gruffalo, The Seaside and other interests.

Our Key Values:

Caring, Commitment to Achieve, Co-operation, Fairness, Honesty & Respect



Welcome back from the Easter holiday. We hope you are ready for a busy and fun Summer Term! The children have made incredible progress since starting school in September and we will spend the Summer Term embedding the skills they have developed in preparation for moving on to Key Stage One. The children love learning in a range of different ways and we will endeavour to make all learning experiences exciting, stimulating and fun! Here we shall give you an overview of some of the topics we plan to cover this term, and as new ones arise this will be reflected in the weekly sheet in your child's homework book.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

As always, we will continue to instil the children's independence. We believe that for the children to take charge of their own learning and development they need to be independent and confident.

As the children reach the end of the Foundation Stage, we are going to be exploring how things in life can change and how we can deal with the emotions that come with change. The children will be acting as role models during visits from the pre-school children due to start with us in September. We will discuss how they felt when they began visiting school and what they can do to make the younger children feel happy and safe.

Physical development

Our topic this term will be 'games' and we will be learning a range of indoor and outdoor team activities. The games will require good teamwork and may involve ball skills, throwing, catching, running, dodging etc. Throughout the topic, we will be promoting good sportsmanship; we know that it is nice to win but it is the taking part that counts and we should encourage and support all players. We will also be preparing for Sports Day by practicing the many events which will take place!

The children will continue swimming this term with Mr Toothill. They will be developing their confidence and early swimming skills.

Communication and Language

We are going to be focussing on following instructions with several ideas or actions this term. This will be through a range of adult led and play based experiences. We are also going to be using lots of 'how' and 'why' questions this term to allow the children to extend their ideas and use more complex vocabulary.

Literacy

Throughout the term we will plan opportunities to use reading and writing in a range of different ways, through both adult led and play opportunities linked to the changing topics each week.

We have spent lots of time learning different graphemes in phonics and modelling how to write. We will now give the children many more experiences of independent writing to apply these skills. We are expecting children to begin structuring sentences and captions and they will be at different stages of using finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. We will explore many different types of writing, e.g. letters, lists, captions and non-fiction. We will continue having our daily twenty minute phonics lessons. The children will also learn

new graphemes for reading and will apply these with their blending skills to read new words.

We shall continue with our shared reading, which the children are really enjoying. The children are introduced to a new story each week in a manner of imaginative ways, in order to cue the children into the story. On the other days they enjoy a range of reading activities and fun songs related to the story. We shall be developing the children's comprehension skills by referring back to parts in the text and answering questions about characters feelings and actions throughout. The children will also be fully immersed in the wonderful vocabulary.

The children have also really loved continuing to add words to our vocabulary wall in our classroom using words heard and spoken about during our daily Newsround sessions. The children have really taken ownership of this and look forward to hearing a new word which we can discuss and add!

Mathematics

In Maths, we will be continuing to develop the children's calculation skills for addition and subtraction. We will become more confident at doing this using a number line to jump back or forth. We will be working with numbers up to 20 and for those children already confident with this, we will work with higher numbers.

We shall also be ensuring that the other areas of Mathematics remain fresh in the children's minds for example, sharing, measuring, pattern, shape, time.

Children will be encouraged to apply their mathematical skills in a range of cross curricular ways. We shall be providing children with challenges and problems to solve where they will need to think of their own strategy to solve it and select any resources they may need to help them.

Understanding of the world

We are looking forward to taking lots of our learning outside to investigate the variation of mini beasts which we have in our gardens at school and at home. We will pay particular attention to similarities and differences between them including the amount of legs they have, colours and whether they can fly or not. We will use videos, the internet and books to research and then show our understanding in a range of ways e.g. creating information posters, booklets, models etc.

We are looking forward to a delivery of caterpillars this term which we will watch grow and develop into beautiful butterflies so we can see this life cycle for ourselves. We will teach the children what animals and creatures need to grow and what we can do to help wild animals.

Expressive arts and design.

As always we incorporate art and design into all our topics.

We continuously have materials and tools available to the children for them to make and create their own ideas. We encourage the children to use their imagination wherever possible as this brings learning to life.

We will continue to change our role play area on a regular basis and create places where children can use their imagination and act out their own ideas. We will begin with a School classroom role play area as this is something which many children have expressed an interest in lately. With many of the children becoming "mini teachers" within their play.

Important Information

As per the school homework policy which is available at www.marketrasen.lincs.sch.uk homework will be set on Thursday and returned on Monday. The homework we set will be fun and creative for you to enjoy with your child at home. Please add a comment in your child's homework book to let me know how they got on with it. If there are any issues with the homework, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

We will also continue to set weekly tasks on Mathletics. We have been very impressed so far with the commitment to achieve being shown! Your Mathletics points are building up nicely.

Our PE day with Miss Parker and Miss Wells is Thursday.

Our swimming day with Mr Toothill is Tuesday

If you are able to help with the weekly swimming sessions please let us know.

We would really appreciate contributions from home for your child's learning journey book. We often use comments you have added in their homework book to add to this but please feel free to write things which aren't relevant to the homework e.g. if you have noticed them do or say something for the first time or reach a particular milestone. Anything which has made you think 'wow!'

As always, any help which you can offer in the classroom is always greatly appreciated no matter what length of time or how regularly for example, hearing children read or helping with activities. Please let me know if you would be interested in helping out.

We are looking forward to a great Summer term. Please feel free to come and see us with any concerns or issues at all.

Miss Parker and Miss Wells