

Understanding of the World

Our topic for Autumn is Weather. We are looking forward to experiencing the different weathers as the season progresses and learning to consider what clothing should be worn for the appropriate weather and to name the items e.g. gloves, hat, sunglasses etc.,

We will be learning to recognise ourselves, our friends and our families. We would appreciate it if everyone could email us a family photo which we can share and display in class so we can encourage the pupils to recognise themselves and others using mirrors.

We will also be focussing on different festivals such as Diwali, Guy Fawkes and Christmas and how we can learn about other cultures through music and food.

Physical Development

Our focus this term will be on dance and gymnastics. We will be teaching the children to join in with the following action rhymes: head, shoulders, hop little bunny, dingle dangle scarecrow, I hear thunder, incy wincy spider, it's raining its pouring.

Other skills we will be learning this term include stepping or climbing, balancing, jumping, rolling, working on gross motor skills such as throwing and catching scarves, etc.

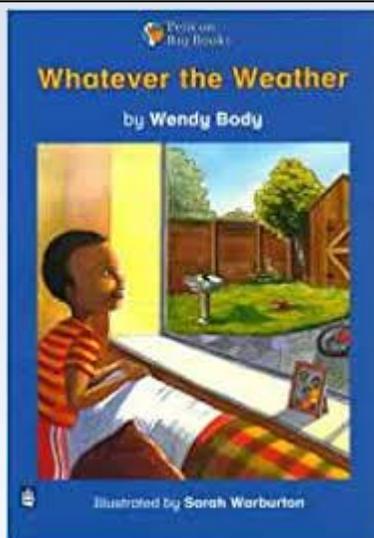
Fine motor activities will include mark making, sensory play, small world play, feeding ourselves and helping with dressing and undressing.

General Information

Welcome back! It has been so lovely to see your children after such a long time. We would also like to welcome Jodi, Zak and Alesha to Class 1! The children have settled back into class incredibly well and we are looking forward to exploring our new topic 'Weather' with them over the coming term. Our focus will also be on reintegrating all pupils and on their health and wellbeing. Class 1 follows an Early Years curriculum and is based on learning through play and small group activities. Please look up the Early Years Outcomes (EYFS assessment guide <https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2012/03/Development-Matters-FINAL-PRINT-AMENDED.pdf>) for more information. We will also be focussing on EHCP targets and assessing where the children are currently working in relation to these targets after such a big break. We can't wait to see how the children all develop over the next few months!

Thank you for your on-going support.

Class 1 and 1S Team



Class 1 - Autumn 2020

Communication, Language and Literacy

Our big book (Guided Reading Text) this term is Whatever the Weather by Wendy Body. It's a lovely story focussing on different weather conditions and appropriate clothing and activities for these weather conditions (rain, sun, wind, snow). During lockdown we sent home a video of Vicki reading this story which you may like to rewatch. We will be focussing on the children recognising key symbols/objects and words linked to weather and trying to make choices about what they think the weather is like outside. We will also be encouraging the children to match the correct item as we read the story to check their comprehension of the text.

As always we will have a daily 'reading' session where we encourage the children to choose a book to explore independently or with an adult.

A big focus this term will be to work on communication targets as outlined in their EHCP. We have already been assessing where the children are currently at with their communication and are now looking at our areas of focus going forward.

For some of our pupils we will be continuing to work on phonics following the Jolly Phonics letter songs for the letters S, A, T, I, P, N.

We will also engage regularly in intensive interaction sessions; copying the noises and actions your child makes to encourage eye contact, vocal turn taking and to help them to understand the process of a communication exchange.

Maths

Our focus this term is on full and empty, puzzles and shapes, building towers, 1:1 correspondence and knowing things exist when out of sight.

All our Maths sessions are taught through Attention Autism style sessions. This involves lots of modelling of activities, singing and repeated steps as we find the children learn well through this method.

We will be singing number rhymes with the children regularly as well as lots of practical activities such as sand and water play, sorting objects, making sets of the same object, completing puzzles and matching activities.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

PSHE will be a huge focus for us this term, particularly with getting the children back in to school routines, sitting for group, meeting new peers and staff.

A lot of time will be spent on practising basic life skills such as: using cutlery, dressing and undressing, doing zips, wiping faces, washing hands, putting on own shoes and socks, brushing teeth, hanging up your coat, putting away your plate.

We will run weekly touch and taste sessions using a selection of dry, wet, hot, cold, soft, hard, spicy, plain foods and encouraging the children to smell, touch, lick, kiss and play with a variety of foods and mark make with them too.

We will also be learning to enjoy taking turns, playing games, sharing food and just hanging out together sharing an experience.

Each Wednesday will be a wellbeing day where we learn to take part in yoga, massage, and other mindfulness activities such as parachute games and basic meditation.

Expressive Arts and Design

Our focus this term will be on exploring paint and colour, large and small construction and exploring texture. We are looking forward to learning and using skills such as printing, blow painting and collage as we explore and make different weather pictures.

Construction helps to build on fine and gross motor control and so we will be learning to cut, stick and to build with blocks, magnatiles and train tracks.

We will also be learning to sing and listen to different weather songs and to choose a song from the choosing board provided.

You can join in with this at home by listening to different weather sounds on You tube e.g. thunder, waterfalls, rainstorms.

We wish you all a happy and healthy term!

