



### Communication and Language

The skills for communication and language underpin our teaching and learning in the early years:

To listen to each other and respond and communicate their ideas building on the breadth of their vocabulary.

Children will be encouraged to speak aloud within a group using expression to make their meaning clear.

### Literacy

We will read a range of books about service over the course of this half term, such as: *The Smartest Giant in Town*, *A Squash and a Squeeze* and *The Elves and the Shoe Maker*. We will also be focusing our Talk 4 Writing on *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* this half term. The children will be encouraged to join in with repeated refrains and anticipate key events in the stories that we share. We will also be using dramatic role play to re-enact stories and Hot Seating to find out more from the different characters.

Throughout the term, the children will be given the opportunity to work on a range of adult supported writing activities, such as Party invitations, Chinese writing, story maps, lists and letters. These activities will encourage the development of independent mark making. During child initiated play, they will be encouraged to talk about their pictures and writing thus giving meanings to their marks

## Nursery Spring Term 1



### Topic: Service

#### Phonics

The Children will continue to enjoy a wealth of listening opportunities including songs, stories and rhymes.

They will be exposed to activities that develop the children's ability to recognise spoken words that rhyme, identify initial letter sounds, and begin to blend and segment.

There are games to support phase 1 phonics at the following link:

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-1-games.html>



#### Mathematics

We will continue to sing a range of number songs, supported by the use of props and numerals.

The children will focus particularly on reciting numbers to ten and touch counting up to 10 objects consistently. They will likewise be presented with number problems, where they will have the opportunity to compare quantities and solve simple number problems.

To heighten their awareness of both shape and number in the environment, we will be looking at shape and pattern in the context of the books we are reading, such as designing a patterned tie for *The Smartest Giant in Town*, Dragon patterns for Chinese New Years.

We will also be focusing upon the Language of size during our exploration of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*.

You may find this a useful website for your child:

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years/counting>



### Physical Development

This term, we will be encouraging the children to move freely and confidently in a range of ways, including slithering, shuffling, rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping, skipping, sliding and hopping. They will have opportunities to develop their gross motor skills, and to draw lines and circles using gross motor movements. The children will also be encouraged to develop their fine motor skills and to begin to use one handed tools, such as scissors and pencils.

We will be continuing to encourage the children to begin to take responsibility for putting on their own coats and doing up zips.



### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, the children will be encouraged to continue to form and strengthen their relationships in Nursery. We will also be exploring expressing feeling such as happy, sad, worried etc, using our faces and bodies. We will endeavour to link our feelings to Service and how helping others makes us feel. We will also act out different scenarios to encourage children to begin to think about how they can resolve play based conflicts.

We will also be taking part in lots of activities and games to encourage turn taking and to build confidence when speaking in front of others.



### Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be presented with musical instruments, which they can explore independently. We will be singing lots of Nursery rhymes and songs linked to our topic.

Construction toys will continuously be offered to the children, and we will be beginning to construct with a purpose in mind. The children will be encouraged to construct in different ways using a variety of materials, for example a house for Goldilocks, a dragon and shoes for the elves.

The children will be taking part in junk modelling activities and will have the opportunity to explore different sensory experiences such as gloop, cloud dough, jelly etc.



### Understanding the World

Children will have continuous access to small world models, such as the doll's house and cars.

We will be encouraging the children to talk about home, people who are familiar to them and significant events in their lives.

Children will have opportunities to use mechanical toys, such as pull back cars. We will also continue to use the iPads to develop basic ICT skills.

We will also be exploring Chinese New Years and learning about how different cultures celebrate.

We will be exploring the changes that take place in the natural world during the season of Winter.



### RE

This half term we will start by exploring the topic 'Local Church and Community'. We will focus on how and why people celebrate. We will then explore the story of the Presentation of Jesus at the temple.

Following this, the children will then be introduced to the topic of 'Gathering', where they will learn how the Church gathers together to celebrate the Eucharist.



### Other information

My world Books - Sent home every Wednesday. To be returned on Monday for a Speaking & Listening Activity.

Baking - We will have the opportunity to bake each week and will endeavour to match this to our topic work e.g. making porridge for the Three Bears, making noodles, etc.