Early Years Newsletter Summer Term 1 2021

The Early Years team are...

Class Teachers:
Mrs Mansfield
Miss Sharp

Class Assistants:
Mrs Abbott
Mr Cook
Mr Deverall
Mrs Herridge

Key Dates To Remember This Term

Virtual Parents Evening	4th May 6th May 7th May
End of term	Thursday 27th May
Inset Day	Friday 28th May
Start of Term 6	Monday 7th June

Stars of the Week

Each Friday afternoon we celebrate our FSU stars of the week. Congratulations to the Spring Term 2 stars;

Frankie
Jessie
Maddy
Piers
Samuel

News and Events

Summer Term Topic

'Things that grow'

This term we will be getting hands on with 'growing'. As the weather improves we will be outside growing vegetable seeds and planting summer bedding plants. The children will learn about what plants need to grow and survive. We will be conducting some experiments; the coloured carnation experiment and growing cress on different media.

We will look at stories like Jack and the Beanstalk, The Tiny Seed, The Enormous Turnip, Supertato and Frans Flower. We will base our literacy writing around these texts and keep a seed growth diary.

Plants aren't the only thing that grows, people and animas do to! We will be thinking about baby animals; chicks, kittens, puppies, piglets etc.. And what they need to survive. We will also consider how we have all grown and what we can do now that we couldn't do when we were babies.

We hope to be able to help some caterpillars grow into beautiful butterflies and will learn all about their life cycle. We are looking forward to producing some butterfly art work and displaying it in our classroom.

Should anyone wish to contribute to our 'green house' we would be very grateful for flowers, seeds, fruit, vegetable and herb plants. We also need compost and grow bags for planting. Many thanks.



Further Communication

Did you know that we have a communication board next to the classroom door? Here we post messages from school and the HSA about reception and nursery. We also update our website regularly and the school office will email you newsletters, letters and other communications. Look out for Tapestry memo's too!



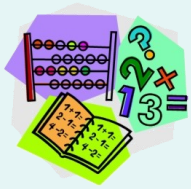
HERE IS AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT WE WILL COVER IN THE CURRICULUM THIS TERM

Communication, Language and Literacy



We will share a variety of texts, such as; Jasper's Beanstalk, Jack and the Beanstalk, The Tiny Seed, Fran's Flower and provide opportunity for role-play. There is an interactive rhyming word beanstalk display were children choose words that rhyme. We have the giants castle role - play inside the classroom and a garden centre role-play outside.

The children design and make a display to illustrate the rhyme 'Mary Mary' and will write about where a magic bean would take them on an adventure. We will keep a cress diary logging the growth of our plants. Match animal parents to their babies and discuss the things we can do now that we couldn't when we were babies.



Mathematics

In maths we will be developing our understanding of addition and subtraction through practical activities. We will use the vocabulary involved in addition and subtraction, and begin to develop an understanding of doubling and halving. We will investigate doubling, halving and sharing through practical activities and learn to count in groups of 10. We will order 2 or 3 items by length, height, weight and capacity. We will learn and use everyday language to talk about weight, capacity, time and money.

Expressive Arts and Design



We will make flowers (daffodils, bluebells, snowdrops etc) using various materials like straws, egg boxes and paper plates, and use these to decorate our classroom. We will learn songs and rhymes about plants and growing. We will use observational drawing techniques to stretch a variety flowers. We will look at the work of Van Gogh's Sunflowers and recreate some art inspired by his famous painting. We will use blob and fold techniques to create symmetrical butterflies and stick on bodies when paint is dry.

Religious Education



This term we explore how to look after the wonderful world which we are part of. We will work on this terms school value of 'respect' and discuss what this looks like and means to each of us.

Physical Development



In PE children will be practicing for sports day and the Big Toddle race. Mr Deverall is busy making the arrangements and will notify parents once they have been finalised.

In the classroom there will be trays of beans, seeds, peas and lentils for the children to use their fine motor grip to separate them into containers using tweezers. We will use the 4 stages of butterfly development to create a movement sequence. We will use recorded music and percussion instruments to perform growth inspired movements.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will read Fran's Flower and talk about having patience. What do the children find difficulty waiting for?



We will talk about plants that grow to provide us with food & drink. Talk about farmers and the work they do and find out about different kinds of Harvest Festivals. We will discuss things we need in order to grow and stay healthy; food, water, shelter, care and exercise. We hope to receive an order of caterpillars and look at life cycles of butterflies using books, pictures and our observations.

Understanding the World



We will ask 'What do seeds need to grow?' and investigate what happens when they don't get these things. WE will look at the root suture of plants and their function. We will see if we can change the colour of white carnations by giving them coloured water. We will plant cress and observe its growth. We will observe the life cycle of a caterpillar using the caterpillar garden, using magnifying glasses - discuss how things appear larger. Sort a range of pictures of animals into those that lay eggs and those that don't. The children will label the parts of the plant. We will use technology to make seed packets on the computer and use ipads to photography the growth of the seed.