

Daymer Class - Spring 1



Reading and Phonics

Phonics lessons continue to develop the children's reading skills this half term, and will include an increased focus on segmenting to spell too. The children are moving on to the next phonics 'phase' which covers vowel digraphs and trigraphs (a digraph is two letters making one sound, a trigraph is three letters making one sound) such as 'ai', 'ee' and 'igh'. We will work on using these sounds in our blending activities, and we will also use them in the words we spell. Alongside our daily phonics lessons, we have booster sessions in place for children needing a little extra support.

Our Main Topic

Our topic this half term is called, 'Big Adventures With Little Feet'.

The intention of this topic is to begin to explore both the world around us and further afield. We want to provide the children with the chance to experience awe and wonder, to find out about Earth and space, to compare and contrast a range of places with where they live and to develop an understanding of ways in which we can protect our environment. We also want the children to be excited about having their own adventures - including a class trip, details to follow soon - and to know that even though their feet may be small (right now), their dreams can always be big!



English

In Literacy we continue to work on the skills of listening, questioning, sentence building, story-telling and gathering information. We also work on developing vocabulary, through our 'Drawing Club' writing sessions and through our topic work. We will share a range of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, to support our topic, and we always encourage the children to bring in relevant books from home to share with their classmates.

The children continue their writing journey this half term with our 'Drawing Club' sessions. These sessions are twice-weekly and are based on quality texts and fairy stories. The children listen to the story, learn new and ambitious vocabulary, consider characters and settings and then draw and write to record their learning. Our Drawing Club sessions last term were much enjoyed by the children (and by me too!) They provide opportunities to develop a range of skills including pencil control and grip, letter formation, sounding out to spell words, and to use your imagination!

Maths



In our daily maths lessons the children will be consolidating their understanding of the number system, working on numbers to five initially and then to eight. They will work on finding, subitising and representing these numbers in different ways, and on the composition of numbers to eight. They will learn to distinguish between odd and even numbers, and to find and make doubles. They will also learn about mass and capacity.

We continue to use the 'Number Sense' resources to support children to subitise numbers in structured arrangements and to link these quantities to the spoken number names, the corresponding number of fingers, and the written numerals we use to represent them.



Physical Development

Children in Daymer Class take part in two PE sessions each week, one small group session and one whole class. These sessions are based on the Early Years physical development resource, 'Leap Into Life'. Alongside these sessions we take daily opportunities to develop gross motor skills when we take our learning outside and use our lovely outside environment as part of our continuous provision. We work on fine motor skills daily too, in our 'dough disco' sessions and other activities in class.

Homework

Research shows that listening to your child read every day at home has a powerful impact on their long-term success. Please make time to hear your child read their book daily and remember to sign their reading diary to celebrate their progress.

We continue to regularly assess the children's recognition of letters and sounds, and target those they are unsure of for extra practise.

If your child comes home with a sound sticker on their sleeve of jumper, please practise it with them at home. I will also be sending home an overview of the phonics we will cover this half term. Any extra support you can give your child at home is of great benefit.

Thank you!



If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to pop in for a chat or book an appointment—I'm always happy to help. Thank you for your continued support.

Lisa Cray