

Autumn Term 2023

Your child's progress is monitored throughout FS1 and FS2 using the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) practice guidance '*Developmental Matters*'. We use this as a basis for our planning, which is developed throughout the year by topics and themes. This term our topics are based around 'Myself', 'Seasonal Changes' and Celebrations. We also use themes chosen by the children following their interests and ideas putting the children at the heart of our curriculum.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

As part of the theme 'Myself' Elf class will develop their own self-confidence, self-awareness and positive relationships with others as part of their daily experience. They will explore 'Why they are Special' and think about 'Special Times' like birthdays for themselves family. We will focus on resilience, independence and self-regulation of behaviors through stories and circle time. As Elf class find out about seasonal Change of Autumn and into the beginning of Winter we can help our plants and birds in the garden, taking care of the world around us. As the children explore the classroom they will be working to take turns and work as part of a group during role play. We'll think about others during festivals like Diwali and celebrations like Christmas.

The children will be introduced to our special Character Virtues. Understanding the importance of being respectful, brave, caring, grateful, fair, honest and responsible. These themes will continue all year.

Physical Development

This term the children improve their fine and gross motor skills with daily finger gym activities and 'Write Dance' a scheme that develops writing skills to music. We will develop our cutting skills as part of Expressive Art and Design curriculum. We will also develop dance, ball skills and enjoy using the trikes and push bikes outside. This is in addition to the gross motor work they do every day in the playground, classroom and garden as part of their activities. As their fine motor skill improves, we will support their emergent writing with painting tracing and multisensory work and lots of opportunity to mark make both inside and out. An essential part of physical development is developing healthy life choices. Eating and exploring a range of healthy snacks. We will be working on being independent at toilet time and finding out about why hand washing is important and why we should clean our teeth and take care of our bodies.

Communication and Language

Communication is developed throughout the year in all subjects. In this term develop our communication skills using role play in literacy. The children will have opportunities to re-enact stories using puppets and produce animations working in groups. The children are always encouraged to ask questions about why things happen and how things work. We will link this to our observations of living things and seasonal change. The children will use language to develop critical thinking skills- discussing, adapting and improving their work.

Literacy-

Elf class are read to daily and encouraged to join in with stories and poems and think about their meaning. We'll enjoy classics like 'Room on the Broom and Owl Babies' and explore nonfiction books linked to our themes of 'Autumn,' 'Myself' and 'Celebration.' Elf class follows a structured phonic programme based on 'Letters and Sounds'. Through phase 1 phonics we explore and develop a range of skills– listening to environmental sounds around us, developing Instrumental

sounds and exploring musical instruments, body percussion and patterns. We enjoy exploring rhyme and alliteration with puppets and games. Using their voices to play with and explore sounds. The children love our musical phonics program. Daily writing opportunities both inside and out linked to themes, Fine and gross motor skills improved by finger gym and write dance. We look forward to parents joining us for a phonic workshop in the Autumn term.

Mathematics

The children take part in daily mathematical activities that develop important mathematical principles through counting and shape work. This will be done both by taught adult led activities and through the continuous provision and play both inside and out. We will be developing their understanding of problem solving and critical thinking. Being able to talk about their ideas will really help their problem solving to develop. The children will continue to listen to rhymes, songs and stories that involve counting and shape and patterns. By providing frequent and varied opportunities to build and apply understanding – using manipulatives, including small pebbles or frames for organising counting – the children will develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary from which mastery of their mathematics is built. Elf class will be supported to develop positive attitudes and interests in mathematics, look for patterns and relationships, spot connections, ‘have a go’, talk to adults and peers about what they notice and not be afraid to make mistakes.

Understanding the World

The children will further develop their understanding of nature, exploring similarities and differences between living things. We will take part in nature trails, observing changes in the Autumn describing what we see during our Forest School sessions. We will plant bulbs, feed the birds and harvest our Autumnal vegetables. Elf class will develop their understanding of people and communities by celebrating our diversity here in SHAPE, taking part in international opportunities when possible and finding out about the wider world through celebrations. Elf class will explore technology used everyday and explore specific programmes using the ‘2 Simple Toolkit’, trying their hand at photography using the iPads. We will encourage the children to ask questions about how and why things work. We will find out about different countries in the world through celebrations like Diwali. Exploring materials and changes they notice when they

freeze or bake something and finding out about their body and what their senses are and how we can use them to explore the world around us.

Expressive Arts and design

We will build our repertoire of songs in daily music experiences and begin to explore different instruments. The children will combine different media and explore colour mixing and emergent drawing. We will be modeling, adapting and discussing the models we make. They will explore a range of natural materials talking about the shapes and pictures they make. Elf class will also explore art and music through our themes and musical phonics. They will select and adapt resources to work with through discussion. Elf class will begin to represent their own ideas in dance, role play, and stories linked to our themes. They will develop complex worlds through small world play and building blocks using a range of construction kits to develop their manipulative skills further.

R.E

RE in FS1 sits within the areas of personal, social and emotional development and understanding the world. Our curriculum enables children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others, and to learn how to form positive and respectful relationships. Elf class will do this through a balance of guided, planned teaching and pursuing their own learning within an enabling environment. They will begin to understand and value the differences of individuals and groups within their own immediate community, this will link in very closely to our work on character values. This will be linked to themes like 'Myself' and 'Celebration'.