



# British Section, SHAPE International School

## CURRICULUM OVERVIEW – Spring Term 2024

### FS1 – ELF CLASS



This term our topics are based around 'Seasonal Changes', 'Living Things and new growth', 'the Chinese New Year', 'Easter' and Traditional Tales. We also use themes chosen by the children following their interests and ideas encouraging curiosity and critical thinking skills.



### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Elf class will continually work on improving self-confidence, self-awareness and developing positive relationships with others as part of their daily experience. We will Focus on the character values promoting resilience independence and self-regulation of behaviours. Our character values are being caring, being responsible, being brave, being helpful, being respectful, being fair, being grateful and honest. We will talk about the special times in our life and our family. The children will think about how we can help animals in our environment. Caring for the world around us and 'belonging to a community'.



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## Physical Development

This term the children will continue to improve their fine and gross motor skills with daily finger gym activities. This is in addition to the gross motor work they do every day in the playground classroom and school gardening areas. Exploring arrangement of outdoor bikes and equipment. As their fine motor skills improve we will support their emergent letter writing with painting tracing and multisensory work. An essential part of physical development is developing healthy life choices; for example, finding out about why hand washing is important and why we should clean our teeth. The children will also be developing a better understanding of a balanced diet.

## Communication and Language

Communication is developed throughout the year in all subjects. In this term we will continue to 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.



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## **Literacy-**

The children are read to daily and encouraged to join in with stories and poems and think about their meaning. We'll enjoy classics like Goldilocks and the Three Bears and also explore non-fiction books linked to our themes. Elf class are following a structured phonic programme based around Bug Club and Letters and Sounds phase 1. Through phase 1 phonics we explore and develop arrange 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 out musical phonics program. Later in the term Elf class will really start to explore orally blending and segmenting sounds as an essential part of the first steps to emergent reading. Daily writing opportunities both inside and out linked to themes. We enjoy 'Scribble Club' as part of our daily activities encouraging the joy of mark making and imagination. Fine and gross motor skills improved by finger gym.

## **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 skills and through the continuous provision and play both inside and out. We will be developing their understanding of problem solving and critical thinking and this will link to their work on speaking. Being able to talk about their ideas will really help them to develop their mathematical understanding. The children will continue to listen to rhymes, songs and stories that involve counting and shape.



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#### **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 winter and spring, describing what we see. Fostering curiosity in the world around us. Elf class will be working hard to develop our sensory garden growing vegetables, herbs and a wide range of plants and trees in the coming months. They will develop their understanding of people and communities by celebrating our diversity here in SHAPE taking part in international opportunities when possible. We will visit the medical centre to find out about the work of doctors and nurses and other occupations here on SHAPE. We continue to find out about the wider world through celebrations like the Chinese New Year. The children will explore using floor robots, ipads and simple programs to enrich the practical day to day hands on learning. Being responsible and safe with technology.

#### **Expressive Arts and design**

We will continue to build our repertoire of songs in daily music experiences and begin to explore composition using different instruments. The children will combine different media and explore colour mixing. We will design and make polar creatures combining different media and junk modelling exploring designing and adapting ideas. We will explore art and music through the Chinese New Year. They will begin to select and adapt work where necessary through discussion. Elf class will begin to represent their own ideas in dance, role play and stories linked to our themes.



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## **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 'Easter'.