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Together we *learn, grow* and *dream*

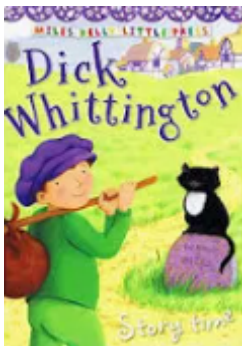
Foxes class: Half-Termly Curriculum Snapshot

Welcome to our Learning Journey! 🙌

This overview is designed to give you a 'snapshot' of the exciting and purposeful learning that will be taking place in Foxes class. It is a guide to the key learning experiences and themes that will underpin our activities and play.

Our curriculum for the Foxes class is rooted in the **Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**. We believe in providing a safe and nurturing environment where every child is known, valued, and celebrated. Our learning is hands-on and inquiry-led, focusing on igniting your child's enthusiasm and a lifelong love of learning.

The children loved visiting Hayrack Church farm in the Autumn term for their first school trip and performed brilliantly in the school Nativity performances. We look forward to watching them make excellent progress in this Spring term.



This half-term we will be exploring the traditional tale 'Dick Whittington' and following on from this, our topic focus will be 'Traditional tales.' Some of the exciting activities we have coming up include investigating how to help Dick travel to London, creating story maps, finding out how to grow vegetables for the market, making our own story props and watching a pantomime!

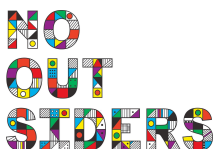
Our Learning this Half-Term

Communication and Language 🗣️

- **Key Learning Focus:**

Participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary. Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding.

How we will learn: Through daily story time, role-play in our 'London Market' area, and specific small-group discussions.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development ❤️

- **Key Learning Focus:**

Work and play cooperatively and take turns with others. Form positive attachments to adults and friendships with peers. Show sensitivity to their own and to others' needs.

How we will learn: Circle time discussions, collaborative play, and supporting each other during snack time and tidying up.

Physical Development 🏃

- **Key Learning Focus:**

Negotiate space and obstacles safely, with consideration for themselves and others. Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing,

How we will learn:

Through our daily outdoor provision, PE lessons focusing on awareness of space, and activities like mark making and threading.

Children will need to come into school in their P.E. kits on Fridays. We recommend that the children wear trainers to school on these days and ask that you send them in non-expensive trainers that they CAN DO UP THEMSELVES! We Reception teachers are big Velcro fans!

Literacy 📖

- **Key Learning Focus:**

Write their own name independently using correct letter formation. Build and segment simple words e.g. hat, pin, pig and write simple sentences such as It is a cat. Read simple sentences and begin to use phonic knowledge to decode simple words.

How we will learn:

Through our Read Write Inc. phonics sessions, high-quality texts linked to our topic, and a variety of writing opportunities in the classroom.



Mathematics +

- **Key Learning Focus:**

This half term we will be finding, subitising and representing numbers to 5 and calculating 1 more and 1 less. We will also be comparing mass and exploring capacity using vocabulary words such as heavy, light, full and empty.

How we will learn:

Counting objects in our continuous provision, number rhymes, and using resources like counters, ten frames and number cards. We will also use balance scales and a range of containers.



Understanding the World 🌍

- **Key Learning Focus:**

This half term we will learn about religious festivals and observe and discuss changes in the natural world including making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. We will also understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books and continue to learn about the Global Goals.

How we will learn:

By looking at maps of our local area, growing and caring for our class plants, and sharing our own cultural experiences.

Expressive Arts and Design 🎨

- **Key Learning Focus:**

We will make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories and invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with our friends.

How we will learn:

Through painting, collage, construction, and music and movement activities.

Our Curriculum 'Golden Threads' ✨

Global Citizenship: We will be linking our learning to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development as 'golden threads' throughout our half-term.

No Outsiders: As a school, we celebrate diversity. We will continue our work through the 'No Outsiders' programme, which teaches children about respecting and celebrating all people, regardless of their differences. Our book this half term will be 'Hello Hello' by Brenden Wenzel. Through this we will learn about how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends.

Here are some ways to support your child's learning at home 🏠



Literacy & Communication

- **Story Mapping:** After reading a traditional tale like *Dick Whittington*, help your child draw a simple "story map". Draw a winding path on a piece of paper and use simple pictures to show what happens at the beginning (Dick arriving in London), the middle (the cat catching rats), and the end (Dick becoming Lord Mayor).
- **"Talk, Talk, Talk":** Share experiences from your day together and encourage your child to talk about their school activities. Use open-ended questions like, "What was your favourite part of the story today?" to build their descriptive language.
- **Share Stories Daily:** Read with your child every day, using books from home or the library. Focus on the illustrations and ask how they help tell the story.

Mathematics

- Subitising to 5: Practice "subitising"—recognising a small group of objects instantly without counting them. For example, quickly show 3 or 4 grapes on a plate and ask "How many?" before they have a chance to count them individually.
- Dice Games: Play simple board games or "roll and move" games using a single die. This helps children instantly recognise the dot patterns for numbers 1 to 6 without counting each dot.
- Finger Counting: Ask your child to show you a certain number of fingers (up to 5) "all at once" rather than counting them out one by one.

Understanding the World

- Growing Vegetables: Try growing simple, fast-growing edible plants like cress in a yogurt pot with wet cotton wool. If you have outdoor space, easy-to-grow options for small hands include radishes, lettuce, or "Tumbling Tom" tomatoes.
- Local Area Exploration: Go on a "sensory walk" around your neighborhood. Point out local landmarks and talk about the route you are taking to build their early geographical awareness.
- Mapping Your Home: Encourage your child to create a simple map of their bedroom or the journey to a relative's house using drawing, blocks, or junk modelling.

Expressive Arts & Design

- Traditional Tale Role-Play: Provide props and old clothes to help your child act out scenes from traditional tales. They could pretend to be Dick Whittington's cat or Little Red Riding Hood.
- Vegetable Printing: Use solid vegetables like potatoes or carrots cut into simple shapes (circles, triangles) to create stamped artwork.
- Music & Movement: Listen to music together and encourage your child to move in ways that express how the music makes them feel.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- Celebrating Diversity: Read the book *Hello Hello* by Brendan Wenzel together. Discuss how the different animals are unique and talk about what makes a good friend, such as sharing and being kind.
- Independence Skills: Practice "self-care" tasks that are important for colder weather, such as independently zipping up coats and putting on gloves.

Ways you can help your child

- *Please send your child in with a water bottle each day.*
- *As the colder days are now here, please practise zipping up coats and putting on gloves so that the children can do this independently.*

We believe in a strong partnership between home and school. Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you have any questions.

Best wishes,

The Early Years Team - Mrs Bates and Mrs Blades

Wincham Community Primary School