

Dear Parents/Carers,
Welcome to Class R!

Our topic this half term is 'Me and My Community' and 'Exploring Autumn'.

I hope you find this page useful in helping you to understand what we will be learning and how you can help support and further extend your child's learning at home.

If you have any questions, please just ask.

Miss Pienaar

Understanding the World

We will be looking at changes in humans and how we grow from a baby to an adult. We will look at our own baby pictures to see how we have changed.

We will be differentiating between past and present and we will be ordering pictures from being a baby, to a toddler, to a child.

We will take part in outdoor learning opportunities on our school site and look at seasonal changes around us as we move into autumn.

We will be encouraging the children to taste new fruits and fruits from around the world. We will use our senses to touch taste & smell the fruit and talk about their likes and dislikes. Our focus this half term in RE will be 'Why is the word God so important to Christians?'. We will be celebrating this Christian value across the school.

In ICT this term we will be learning how to navigate through mini mash, learning how to log in and use the different apps.

PSHE

In PSHE we will be focussing on 'Being me in my world'. We will get to know new friends in our class and wider school family, celebrate our unique personalities, talk about similarities and differences in our appearance and celebrate all our achievements.

Autumn 1



Me and My Community Exploring Autumn

Physical Development

We will be changing and dressing, learning to wash our hands and use the toilet independently. We will be developing co-ordination and control during indoor and outdoor P.E opportunities and the children will have daily opportunities to improve and develop their gross and fine motor skills through indoor and outdoor play.

Mathematics

In maths this term we will be:
Recognising, reading and writing numbers 0-10/10-20.

We will order numbers from smallest to biggest and biggest smallest and we will work hard to ensure we count objects using accurate 1-1 correspondence. The children will be exploring 2d shapes and their properties and will create and continue simple patterns.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be exploring different colours and using colours for a purpose.

We will be painting pictures of ourselves and our families.

We will be mixing colours and talking about changes we notice.

We will begin to explore the texture of different objects in our environment, and use a variety of collage materials to create our faces.

Helping at home

Daily Reading: Please take time each day to share books and listen to your child read. Don't forget to record this in their reading diary! Daily reading helps children discover new vocabulary, spot new phonic sounds, and master tricky words, all while building a lifelong love for books.

Practise the phonic sounds and tricky words brought home, and encourage your child to use their handwriting sheets to practise forming these letters correctly.

Count objects around the house and match spoken numbers to their written numerals.

Look for different shapes and talk about the size, weight, and length of everyday items.

Involve your child when shopping by asking for specific quantities (e.g., "Could you pick up 3 bananas or 2 apples for us?").

Literacy

This term, the children will be introduced to reading and writing using Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised. Little Wandle is a systematic, Department for Education-validated phonics program designed to help children learn to read and write quickly, fluently, and with confidence. Through short, engaging daily sessions, children learn: Grapheme-Phoneme Correspondences (GPCs): Recognizing the shapes of letters and the distinct sounds they make. Blending for Reading: Putting individual sounds together to read words (e.g., s - a - t = sat). Segmenting for Writing: Breaking words down into their individual sounds to help with early spelling and writing.

Our Focus This Half Term While we introduce these initial sounds, our main early focus will be preparing the children's hands and minds for reading and writing: Building Hand Strength & Fine Motor Skills: Before we move onto formal letter formation, our main priority is building up the muscles in the hands, wrists, and fingers. Through fun, hands-on activities, we will develop the grip and dexterity needed for comfortable pencil control. Mark Making & Early Writing: Following the Little Wandle writing framework, children will be encouraged to make purposeful marks, label their work, and begin writing simple captions as their confidence grows.

Name Writing: We will support the children to recognize, trace, and begin writing their own names independently.

Exploring Stories: Alongside phonics, we will be reading a rich variety of picture books every day to build vocabulary, spark curiosity, and foster a lifelong love for reading.