

Awesome



Animals!

Welcome Back!

I hope you all had a really wonderful Christmas break. We can't wait to get the children settled back into school and get stuck into our new topic for this half term. Below you can find a brief outline of our learning and the skills that we will be developing over the course of the next 5 weeks.

Communication and Language

This half term, we will continue to build on our listening and communication skills. We will be developing our conversation skills with our Talking Partners within our adult led activities as well as within our play. We will be working on our ability to answer 'how' and 'why' questions. Once again, books will play a huge part in all aspects of our learning, we will immerse ourselves in story books and work on our ability to retell stories in our own words. We will also explore and discuss non-fiction books that are linked to our topic and see if we can find some of these in our own school library,

Physical Development

Within our PE sessions with Miss Downing we will be focusing on our balancing skills. We will also be playing some games and following simple rules in order to play successfully.

We will continue to refine our fine and gross motor skills both inside and outside of the classroom using activities tailored to the children's needs as well as some that are linked to our topic and individual interests

We will continue our daily Funky Fingers work in order to support our ability to use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently.

We will also be carrying out weekly yoga sessions using Cosmic Kids Yoga.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During this half term we will be working on our ability to be reflective learners - to be proud of what we can achieve and perhaps even identify what we could do differently next time.

We will continue to develop our independent skills - This will include our self-care strategies, as well as being responsible for our own belongings. We will also be thinking about 'Kindness' and ways in which we can 'Spread Happiness', both in school, as well as at home.

Our LifeWise sessions with Miss Downing this half term will be all about staying safe. We will be focusing particularly on 'Road Safety', 'Water Safety' and 'Fire Safety'.

Literacy

We will be continuing our daily phonics session within our streamed groups - allowing for each child to receive support tailored to their own needs. Within our phonics sessions we will be reinforcing our current knowledge, learning new sounds and embedding this knowledge through reading and writing practice over the course of the week.

We will be continuing our weekly Drawing Club sessions - Using the Magic of stories to learn new vocabulary, explore characters, settings and create our own adventures based on the story of the week.



Maths

This half term we will be beginning our maths learning by reinforcing and continuing to deepen our Knowledge 0-5.

We will then move on to explore Mass and Capacity.

Towards the end of this half term, we will focus on the numbers 6, 7 & 8. We will be learning to:

- Find 6, 7 and 8
- Represent 6, 7 and 8
- 1 more & 1 less
- Composition of 6, 7 and 8
- Make pairs-odd and even
- Double to 8 (find a double)
- Double to 8 (make a double)
- Combine 2 groups

Understanding the World

Our learning this half term will be centered around our Topic of 'Amazing Animals'. We be talking about animals and the types of places that they might live around the world.

We will be sorting and grouping animals and will be talking about their similarities and differences. We will then be learning about what animals need and will be finding out how animals behave differently as the seasons change.

We will also be learning about Lunar New Year and will be focusing on the story of the Chinese Zodiac.

Over the course of this half term, we will also continue our observations of the seasonal changes and the impact that this has on the world around us. We will be talking about Winter and what we know about this magical season - We will be keeping our fingers crossed for some really authentic winter weather, for the children to experience, but will also spend some time playing with and observing ice as it melts.

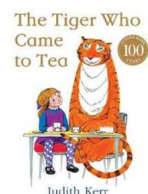
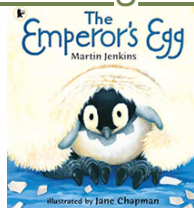
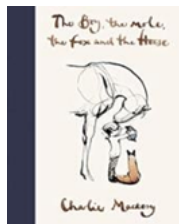
Expressive Arts and Design

We love to be creative in Tater Du. This half term we are going to be using Water Colour Paints to explore colour. We will be creating our own colour washes in the style of Joan Miro and will be adding appropriate colours to the illustrations of Charlie Mackesy.

As part of our learning on Valentines Day and Chinese New Year, we will be using our scissor skills and joining techniques to create decorations to help us to celebrate these events.

In refining our scissor skills we will be practising cutting along curved lines.

Just a few of the books that will inspire our learning this half term



Some of the Vocabulary that we will be learning.

Mammal

Amphibian

Map

Reptile

season

Habitat

Hibernate

Climate

Globe

Winter

