



TERM: SUMMER

DATE: APRIL 2021

Dear Parents

We have such an exciting term ahead with so many wonderful topics, activities and exciting learning opportunities for your children. Our new topic is animals, which will allow the children to learn about the different kinds of species that roam our earth. Our second topic this term is food and will allow the children's creativity to really shine as we learn about and base activities all around nutrition. Learning about the Olympics in the Summer Term will also be a key focus as we appreciate this may be the first year that the children can grasp a little bit of what it's all about. We aim to incorporate as many skills as possible into our learning sessions and will also ensure that Numeracy and Literacy skills, Expressive Art and Design activities and Physical Development opportunities are also a main focus within the classroom.

**Literacy**

The Summer Term is an excellent opportunity for the children to express their thoughts and feelings through their writing. We aim to encourage the children to write at every opportunity and it's a lovely way to see a fuller picture of their progress since September. This term, the activities in Literacy will include creating animal fact files, writing fiction and non-fiction stories and labelling the parts of an animal's body. In addition, as part of our topic on food, the children will have the chance to write their own menus, write and draw their own favourite foods and describe what different flavours taste like using descriptive language.

The focus on phonics is still a top priority in the Summer Term and we aim to revise all the sounds that were learnt during the lockdown period. We will also be looking at Phase 4 phonics which aims to consolidate the sounds learnt last term and introduces several new tricky words.

**Maths**

The goals for Early Years Numeracy are as follows, to count reliably with numbers from one to 20, to place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number, to add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer and to solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing. Additionally, the children will be given the chance to explore aspects of shape, space and measure. These skills include, the use of everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money, comparing quantities and objects to solve problems and to recognise, create and describe patterns.

**Understanding of the World**

It's in a child's nature to want to explore the world around them and we aim to cater for their expanding curiosity by exploring the similarities and differences of their immediate and wider surroundings, including animals, plants and other living organisms. We encourage them to talk about the features of their own community and how people's customs and traditions might vary from one another.

**Expressive Arts and Design**

Allowing the children's creativity to shine through into everything they do is a very vital part of the Early Years. We give the children as many opportunities as possible to design, create, construct and paint in order to express themselves in a variety of different. The children are also exposed to many different textures and materials when they are experimenting with artwork. This term, the children will be able to use their own ideas and creativity to design two separate role play areas, these being, a jungle and an Olympic stadium cafe.

## PE

In the Summer Terms we will be focusing on Games and Athletics during our P.E lessons. This will enable the children to develop skills such as, increasing control over objects, pushing, patting, throwing, catching and kicking balls. To show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements and to move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space.

## Jewish Studies

This term promises to be action packed starting with celebrating Yom Haatzmaut with a themed day of activities all dressed in blue and white. We will celebrate Lag B'omer with a 'Teddy bear's picnic'. Reception children will learn how Hashem gave us the Ten Commandments on Shavuot and will cook, create and learn about the chag. We will be making a brachot project and our own siddur to use for Tefilla. We will continue to improve our Hebrew reading by learning the letters kuf to taf, the final letters too and become familiar with using chataf vowel sounds. The children will interactively have fun learning the parshiot of the week with a song and message that relates to our lives.

## Physical Development

Children's gross and fine motor skills are developing at rapid speeds in Reception and we cater for their needs in a variety of different ways. The use of scissors, pincers, play-doh, paint brushes, sponges and shaving foam are incorporated into their daily activities to promote the use of their fingers, wrists and hand control on a regular basis.

## Important dates this term

- Week commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Autism Awareness week
- Week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> May – Science Week
- 10<sup>th</sup> June – French Day
- Week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> June – Money Week
- SPORTS DAY – JULY (date to be confirmed).
- Reception Year Group Assembly

## Recommended Book List

- Giraffe's Can't Dance by Giles Andreae
- The Tiger who came to Tea by Judith Kerr
- There's a pig up my nose by John Dougherty
- Eat your peas by Kes Gray
- Oliver's milkshake by Vivien French.

## Activities you may enjoy at home

- Phonics hangman
- Numicon (Please ask for advice)
- Phonics Games (Topmarks Games Early Years)
- Implementing reading and writing into daily tasks e.g. shopping lists, reading ingredients.
- Using tweezers to pick up the food they want e.g. rice, peas, fruit.
- Make your own play-doh.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Teaching the children about their own emotions is a key way to help them understand the emotions of others as well. We use special circle time sessions to talk about how we feel and how we should act towards others.

## Communication and Language

The children will continue to have carpet sessions each morning and afternoon. This gives them the chance to develop their concentration skills and also allows them to listen and communicate with others. Carpet sessions will centre on phonics, maths and topic subjects and will give them the opportunity to talk about and ask questions that are relevant to what they have learnt.