

Acorns Nursery Newsletter Spring 1



Skills developed through play include; teamwork, problem solving, empathy, creativity, self-expression, negotiation, communication, goal setting, following rules, self-confidence, self-reliance and social interaction.

We have another busy term ahead filled with purposeful play activities.

LITERACY

Reading

Please share a book with your child on a daily basis. Reading to your child will increase their vocabulary and understanding of the world.

All books should be returned on a weekly basis along with the completed reading record.

Your child will come home with a new book, that has either been selected for them based upon their interests and area of focused learning or that they have selected themselves, on their last session of the week.



Mathematics

Number

This term we will continue to reaffirm knowledge of a variety of number based rhymes and songs, encouraging the children to recite numbers in sequence

The focus this term is upon number recognition, and exploring representing number in different forms.

Shape, Space and Measure

The children will explore size, capacity and weight comparing a number of objects.

We encourage the children to take further notice of the shapes in the environment.



Phonics

This term the children are challenged to distinguish sounds as we explore musical instruments, tone and rhythm.

During our carpet time activities we will introduce several teaching techniques including 'My turn your turn', 'Talk to your partner', these are essential for Phonic development in school.

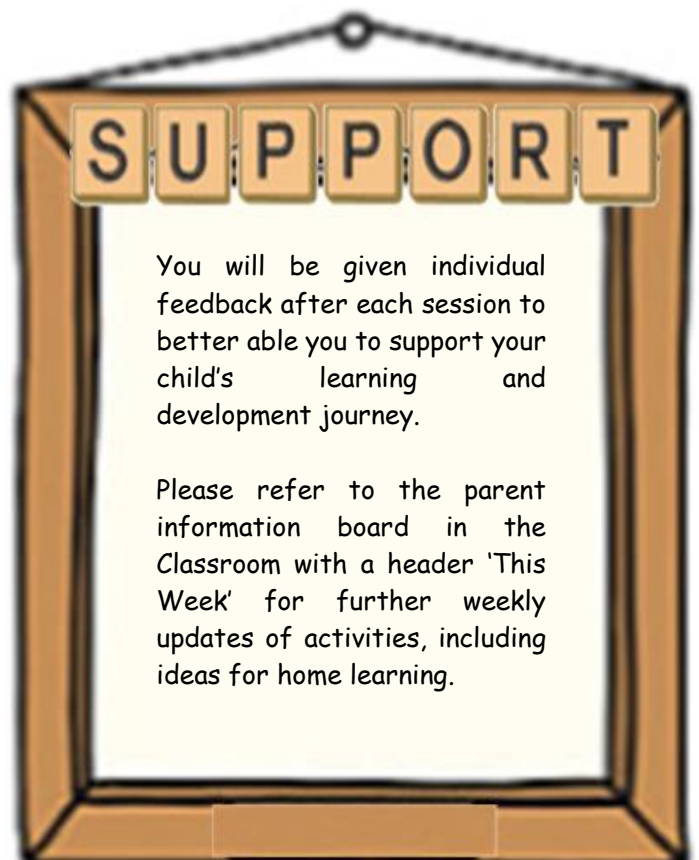
We will also look at additional rhyme and verse. Playing with rhymes inserting nonsensical words for more play and discussion.



SUPPORT

You will be given individual feedback after each session to better able you to support your child's learning and development journey.

Please refer to the parent information board in the Classroom with a header 'This Week' for further weekly updates of activities, including ideas for home learning.





This term we will continue to scaffold your child's development in a way that is tailored to them. Your child will be supported and challenged individually across all the areas of learning and development as we offer activities that are meaningful and in line with your child's capabilities, level of understanding and their interests; also taking account of their preference for learning.

In addition to this we will also ensure that our areas of our continuous provision are enhanced to support the themed learning intentions, thus ensuring that your child is always stimulated in a now familiar environment.

Further details of our topic can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

Early Education Funding – 30 hours entitlement

If you are in receipt of thirty hours early education funding, it is vital that you renew your code with HMRC. Failure to renew your code prior to the expiry date will impact receipt of your funding. Please ensure that you action reminders with regard to your code that you receive from HMRC as soon as you receive it. If you would like to know when your code expires then please discuss with the Nursery team many thanks.

The Bulletin Board

- Please check the parent noticeboards for details of our weekly activities, and the Buzzed for learning board to see how well your child does each day.
- Please note that we want to ensure that your child eats healthily throughout the day, we ask you take time to read our healthy lunch guidance on our parent information board. Confectionary (Sweets) will not be permitted to be eaten on site.
- Please label **your entire** child's belongings all clothes and bags, coats and lunch boxes.
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REMINDERS

Upon arrival and departure can you please discourage your child from playing with the resources in the playgrounds, help us to keep our environment safe, secure and enjoyable for all our children during school hours.

Towards the end of last term we saw an increase in the number of toys being brought into Nursery from home. We adapted and used this as a conversation topic. However, can we please ask that all toys from home are no longer brought in. Some toys are not suitable for our younger children and also it can cause issues if the toy is lost or the child does not want to share their possession from home. So please leave your toys at home. Thank you.

Stories online: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories>

Alphablocks: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games/alphablocks-games>

Numberblocks: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>



Our Topic this Term - **Once Upon a Time**

Enchanted settings, magical elements, good and evil characters, kings and queens, princes and princesses - what do all these elements make? Fairy tales. This term we take the children upon an adventure through traditional fairy tales. Exploring various fairy tales such as "Rapunzel", "The Princess and the Pea", "Cinderella", "Jack and the Beanstalk" and "Three Little Pigs".

There will be many activities that we deliver during this half term in order to deliver our topic learning objectives. Below we offer an overview of the activities that we will deliver each week.

Week One	<p>We focus upon parts of the story</p> <p>We will take this opportunity to review the characteristics of fairy tales. Encouraging the children to guess the fairy-tale we introduce and recount the main events of a variety of fairy tales. Once the children are familiar with their tales we will combine literacy and math practice, counting how many times a phrase is repeated or how many times the evil character appears. As we challenge the children to be imaginative and to further use their communication skills we will create our very own fairy tale throughout the week.</p>
Week Two	<p>We focus upon the story setting</p> <p>Our activities based upon "Rapunzel" and "Beauty and Beast" we explore castles and towers. The children need to sequence sized towers and will embark upon building their own as we measure recording their heights, and encourage the children to create towers as per the blue-print that they receive, as we ask the children to use their own visual discrimination abilities. We will also have a variety of craft activities as we depict Rapunzel up in her tower.</p>
Week Three	<p>We focus upon the story characters</p> <p>Our activities this week are based upon the Royal characters that feature in many of the traditional fairy tales, "The Princess and the Frog", "The Princess and the Pea" and "Cinderella". The children become a member of the Royal family for a week. Making their own crown using a variety of materials and shapes we introduce and reaffirm shape recognition. Playing "King/Queen, May I", we practice movements in a variety of ways and challenge listening and attention skills. Exploring change and magical transformations we make believe this week. Who will be the fairy queen? What will the classroom chair be transformed in to?</p>
Week Four	<p>We focus upon story structure - the beginning, the middle and the end</p> <p>Our activities this week are based upon Jack and the Beanstalk. Undertaking a variety of craft activities with beans, and using beans to practice measuring and comparing volume and weight. The children are then ask to focus upon sequencing story cards, and using props in order to retell the story as we reaffirm the story structure in terms of 'in the beginning, in the middle and at the end'.</p>
Week Five	<p>We focus upon problem solving</p> <p>Our activities this week are based upon the tale of the "Three Little Pigs". The pigs have a problem i.e. the 'Big Bad Wolf wanting to eat them' and we need to explore how it could be solved. We revisit the story and explore from different perspectives considering how the Wolf felt as we use "The true story of the three little pigs" as we encourage the children to think about events from different perspectives. Using our gross motor skills there will be a lot of circle games based upon the Wolf and the Three little pigs.</p>
Week Six	<p>We focus upon Once Upon A Time...</p> <p>Creating our own fairy tale again, we can explore how it is now different and if there are any more details that we need to include in our story now. Revisiting and assessing we review all the stories that we have explored. Who has been the favourite character? Can we separate characters that we have seen and read about into 'Good' and 'Evil'. We discuss how the characters make us feel, and how we would feel if we were that character. Each child will be encouraged to retell their favourite story in their own words to the class, as we build confidence and develop language skills.</p>