

Communication and language

This term, the children will continue to retell a story, developing their story language to include repetition. Children will continue to develop their knowledge of asking questions, focussing on the use of 'why' questions. Children will use talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events with detail. Children will continue to be encouraged to use new vocabulary in their play.

Mathematics

Throughout this term, the children will build numbers beyond 20, continue patterns beyond 10 and explore verbal counting patterns beyond 10. They will develop their understanding of addition by adding more and develop their understanding of subtraction by taking away. Children will explore the properties of shape and spatial relations. They will rotate and manipulate shapes, explaining their shape arrangements. Children will also compose and decompose shapes, copying 2D shape pictures and finding 2D shapes within 3D shapes.

Literacy – reading and writing

We shall be sharing and reading lots of quality books this term such as 'My First Book of Dinosaurs' and 'Giraffes Can't Dance'. During our daily phonic sessions, we will be starting Phase 4, following the Little Wandle scheme. The children will blend to read cvcc, ccvc and ccvcc words containing short vowels. Children will also read root words with -ing, -ed and -est suffixes. The children will continue to develop the ability to write captions and short sentences independently, ensuring that they can read their writing back to themselves. Children will spell words by drawing on their phonic knowledge, making phonetically plausible attempts at writing more complex unknown words. Children will use the writing skills to label different types of animals and write captions or sentences about animals.

Personal, Social and Emotional

Development

Our School Value this term is 'Understanding'. During circle time activities, the children will learn strategies to control their emotions. They will then be encouraged to use these strategies within their play. Another key strategy that will be focussing on this term is the ability to work collaboratively as part of a group.

Reception Summer Term 1 2024

Our topic this term is '**Amazing Animals**'. We will be learning about dinosaurs, safari animals, sea animals and minibeasts.

The children's interests will continually be used to inform the direction which our topics takes.

Expressive Art and Design

The children will explore and use different effects to express their ideas and feelings through the use of paint, pastels and other creative materials. Children will find out about the artist Andy Goldsworthy and will create their own natural pictures in the outdoor environment. In Music, children will practise songs and improvise using 1 to 3 notes and untuned percussion. Children will explore and engage in music making and dance, performing on their own and in small groups.

Understanding the World

The children will talk about past and present events in their lives and before they were born, with a closer look at prehistoric animals. The children will talk about things that are the same and things that are different when comparing life in our country to life in South Africa. The children will discuss how other children travel to school, what they eat and where they live. Children will talk about what makes different animals special and use key vocabulary such as predator, carnivore and herbivore. Children will also investigate floating and sinking when making their own boats. In our RE lessons, children will learn to talk about how they live their lives and how these might be different to their friends.

How you can help

- Use the internet or non-fiction books to find out fun and interesting facts about different animals from around the world.
- Read with your child EVERY DAY, even if just for ten minutes, and return the book to school for changing on Friday.
- Help your child learn the individualized phonics sent home every two weeks.
- Provide writing opportunities for your child, e.g. writing thank you cards, shopping lists, name in cards.
- Help your child learn to count, recognise and order numbers from 10 – 20.
- Help develop your child's fine motor control by using scissors to cut and stick.

Thank you.

Physical Development

The children will continue to develop their fine motor skills, building and developing their ability to hold scissors correctly and cut out small shapes. Our focus in PE this term is Ball Skills. Children will be able to confidently and competently control a ball in different ways, including rolling, bouncing and dribbling of a ball. They will also develop throwing at a target.