

Communication and Language
Literacy Reading and Writing

This term we provide the children with the opportunity to enjoy a range of story books and audio stories. They will continue to have fun with nursery rhymes, poems, and begin to accurately predict events and be expected to read key words in texts as well as use their phonic skills to read other words. They will discuss openings, settings, main characters and be expected to use story book language in their play. The children will be encouraged to use the contents, and index pages of non-fiction texts to help them to find information and answer questions. Inference will be a focus when reading stories and the children will be encouraged to explain and justify their ideas/reasoning when commenting or answering questions about a text. Reception children especially, will be encouraged to speak in front of larger groups in a range of contexts. They will also be expected to record their ideas in writing using letter, sound and key/word spelling. They will be encouraged to write in sentences using a capital letters, finger spaces and full stops accurately and with increasing consistency. We will also expect them to use connectives/conjunctions to extend their writing ideas with description.

Nursery will be encouraged to use their listening skills to tune into different sounds. They will be expected to recognise their name and begin to develop a comfortable pencil grip to 'mark make' and write their name sounding each letter within it.

Spring

Animals and Mini-Beasts

Mathematical Development

Through practical activities such as stories, songs, games and imaginative play we shall explore reading, writing and using numbers to 20 and beyond. The children will be expected to recite number names in order forwards and backwards to identify one more/less; and count with increasing accuracy in twos, and tens. They will also write and order two digit numbers as well as subitise small amounts.

The Pipits will continue to explore what each digit in a two digit number represents e.g., place value.

Time is explored through days of the week.

Addition and subtraction will be explored through games and children will be encouraged to use their own developing strategies such as counting on, counting back and number bonds and facts to solve addition and subtraction problems. They will also explore halving, doubling and sharing.

We will continue counting, sorting, partitioning and combining sets of objects and numbers. We will be counting and making arrays. The children will handle money in a range of contexts to solve practical problems via role play. They will also become more confident to name 2D and 3D shapes, talk about shapes within shapes, and compare and discuss their properties. They will be using shapes to make pictures and patterns as well as exploring capacity, and symmetry through our topics.

Expressive Arts and Design Music

The musical focus for this term will be playing instruments, moving to, making and copying a beat as well as leaning/inventing new songs with friends. An emphasis on listening and participating will be pursued as well as learning new songs to perform for their friends.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The Reception children will be expected to show independence when choosing their own activities, resources and way of doing things. They will be encouraged to play with other children negotiating plans, solving problems and taking turns without adult help.

The Nursery children will make new friends and will be encouraged to take turns and share toys and resources with adult support in our busy class. Each day the Reception children will be taking turns to be the leader.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be expected to express themselves using a variety of tools and techniques. They can explore, investigate and experiment using modelling of clay and dough and various natural materials; during outdoor learning particularly. They will work on large and small scale drawings, collage and paintings, and make pictures/natural arrangements. They will be printing using natural flowers and fauna of Allendale. The children will explore patterns and shapes through the topic *Animals and Mini Beasts*. We will be making observational drawings and then mixing paint. Through junk modelling and construction equipment the children will be able to make and build structures linked to the topics this term. They will also explore different designs and techniques through models of their own choice. Children will be expected to plan simple models and then use various, resources to make, and adapt their models.

The children of Allendale School's artwork will also feature in an exhibition at The Forge in the market square.

The World

Through the topic Spring, Animals and Mini-Beasts we will be investigating different animals both native to our country and those further afield.

The Pipits will be involved in using resources and equipment to identify, draw, find out about, describe and group various animals and learning about features of living things and how to care for them.

We will also be investigating how to grow super plants from the point of germination to plant and will open up a role play garden centre to sell and care for plants. We shall also be planting in our outdoor garden area.

The children will be expected to use the remote control, load and run programs such as Activate; explore the internet to carry out research about animals as well as use chrome books to select their own activities. We will be using the iPad to take photographs of their seeds as they grow and we will also be creating illustrations. The children will become more confident using the letters and symbols on and around the keypad to perform functions on selected programs. They will be expected to use the Interactive White Board to manipulate words and images and to play games. The children will also be learning to operate a Bee Bot (battery operated floor toy). They will be expected to program it to go on simple journey within our class/garden. They will also be invited to enjoy stories, games and information apps on iPad.

Children will focus upon the local church its uses and special ceremonies such as weddings and christenings. We will also be celebrating children's birthdays and thinking about the importance of birthday celebrations and the Queen's Jubilee.

We will be out and about in the outdoor area recording the weather for our daily weather chart. We will also be exploring the local environment and learning about plants and animals that are local to our area/environment.

During Outdoor Learning with Miss A we will explore the natural world via many outdoor learning opportunities. We shall also be printing with flowers and making small scale homes with natural objects as well as many more activities.

Physical Development

The children will focus on developing and perfecting their fine motor skills through modelling, construction, writing, painting and using large and small pens, crayons and chalks.

They will also participate in games to develop their gross motor skills and explore the outdoor garden area. Mrs Lamb will continue to teach the Pipits every week and will focus on games and athletic activities.