

### Understanding the World

Our topic this term is Winter. We will learn about the changes that happen and how we can look after animals and birds during this season. We will use the stories The Gruffalo, Stickman and The Gruffalo's Child to support our topic. The children will have the opportunity to become detectives to explore animal tracks and spot birds in winter. We will also be learning about the Arctic to give the children the opportunity to make comparisons between where they live and a different place.

### Expressive Arts and Design

Our Creative Area provides opportunities for the children to mix colours and create pictures of events, people and objects. Our focus this term will be on texture and the children will be learning how to use different tools and techniques to shape, assemble and join materials. We are looking forward to using our DT skills to make things with moving parts.

In music we will be learning some new songs and playing different instruments linked to stories, focussing on loud and quiet sounds.

### Communication and Language

We will have a Doctors Surgery, an Igloo, a Bird Hide and a shop as our role play areas. These areas will encourage the children to re-enact different experiences they have encountered through our topic work, and retell stories they have heard. Role play also gives the children the opportunity to work alongside each other co-operatively and become more confident to speak in a group environment. Our focus for speaking and listening is to develop the skills of asking and answering 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences as well as in response to stories they have heard.

### Mathematics

The children will learn how to use mathematical vocabulary this term. They will be using numbers 1 to 20 - ordering them and using them to count objects reliably. The children will also be exploring how to sequence numbers from smallest to biggest. They will begin to learn how to add and subtract and solve mathematical problems which include how to double or half a number.

Maths Monkey will come home with different children this term. Maths Monkey gives you the opportunity to do some fun Maths at home with your child and it gives them the opportunity to show you what they have been learning at school.

### Reception Spring Term 1



### Physical Development

The children have access to the outside area where they can continue to develop their gross motor skills. They are also given opportunities inside to develop fine motor skills such as cutting and writing. We will change for PE this term. Please make sure your child's PE kit is in school. We will use the hall once a week to do some Yoga.

### Literacy

The children have daily phonics sessions through which we recap sounds the children have learnt so far and learn more phase 3 sounds. The children will continue to blend sounds to read as well as learn how to read some words which cannot be sounded out. Please share books at home with your children and encourage them to recognise sounds they already know, blending them to read words and identifying some of our key words they have learnt. These will be coming home weekly.

Reading Robot will come home this term for you to have fun reading outside of school and tell us what you have been doing!

The children will be learning how to use the sounds they know to spell words to write labels and captions as well as starting to write sentences about their weekends as news writing.

We will hear your child read either individually or in a group once a week. Individual reading may take place with the teacher, teaching assistant or a reading volunteer.

### ICT

We will be using our iPads to develop Fine Motor Skills and Phonics. We will be exploring new Apps to use and teaching the children how to take photographs.

### Important dates:

PE – Yoga for both classes will be on a Wednesday morning. Please ensure PE kits are in school. They can be left at school.

Please look at our School Newsletter for upcoming events.