

Our topic this half term: In the garden with Jack and the Beanstalk **Our books this half term:** The Story of a Butterfly, Monkey Puzzle, Jasper's Beanstalk, Jack and the Beanstalk, Duck Soup

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| <p>English</p> | <p>In English we are going to be spending lots of time unpicking familiar stories such as Jack and the Beanstalk. We will begin the 'talk for writing' process which will provide children with the opportunity to retell, map out, plan new stories and innovate them with their own ideas. Children will then begin to verbally retell their own versions of the story and will write their own sentences as part of this. Children will be introduced to capital letters and full stops and will begin to learn how to use these verbally and then in their writing.</p> <p>In reading, children will learn to be fluent readers by decoding words in their head before reading them out loud. We are going to be continuing to recap digraph sounds and learning where to spot them within words. We are also learning how to 'chunk' longer words into smaller parts. During our guided reading sessions, children will be shown how to read back their sentences without the need to decode them. This will help us to comprehend what we are reading.</p> |  |
| <p>Maths</p> | <p>In Maths we will begin the term by looking at 3D shapes. We will learn the names for cuboid, cubes, spheres, cylinders, pyramids and cones and will begin to notice 2D shapes within the 3D shapes that we find. We will be going on lots of shape hunts and will be spending lots of time building in our construction area. There must be a reason why a sphere can't go at the bottom of a tower?!</p> <p>Following on from this, children will be introduced to numbers beyond 10 and up to 20. We will learn how to count, order, and recognise 'teen' numbers and will work on the STEM sentence "I can see 1 ten and ___ ones" "___ and ___ makes ___" "___ comes after ___".</p> |  |
| <p>Science</p> | <p>Hopefully we will now begin to see a little more sunshine! We will therefore begin to start growing in our forest school garden. We plan on growing our own vegetables including potatoes, courgettes and lettuces. We will learn how to prepare the ground, plant the seeds, look after what we grow and what to do to keep away any predators. This will include creating our own bird feeders, miniature scarecrows and going on mini beast hunts to check if there is anything nibbling the things that we are growing! In time we hope to taste what we have made and donate some of what we grow to the school kitchen! We will also be growing our own butterflies. We will watch how the egg turns into a caterpillar and then a butterfly. We will release our butterflies into the forest school garden at the end of the half term.</p> |  |
| <p>PSHE/RSE</p> | <p>This half term the class will learn about "changing me". We will learn the different names for the different parts of our body- this often includes our 'private parts' (we follow the children's enquiries and questioning with this and will discuss this area only if it comes up.... very often it does!). We believe that by teaching children the anatomically correct names for private parts, children have a clearer understanding that all parts of the body are important and no stigma is attached to any part. We learn how our bodies have changed from being a baby to being at school and will understand that we will continue to grow into adults. We discover what we can do to help us grow up into healthy adults.</p> |  |
| <p>RE</p> | <p>In RE our key question will be 'What can we learn from stories?'. Children will be introduced to new stories from Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Sikhism and we will use these stories to find out something new. We will read 'The boy who cried wolf', 'The crocodile and the priest' 'Bilal and the beautiful butterfly', 'The gold giving serpent' and 'The lost coin'. There will be lots of role play opportunities and natural materials will be used to create settings and characters for our stories.</p> |  |
| <p>PE</p> | <p>We are working so hard with our fundamental movement skills and are learning to continue to perfect our jumping, hopping, running, throwing and catching skills. We are going to be using our Jack and the Beanstalk story to help us to think of new ways of moving. This will include moving in, around, over and under equipment as well as balancing and moving along apparatus. We will also be preparing for sports day- learning how to jump in a sack, balance an egg on a spoon and run with speed. We will also learn how to work as part of a team to earn points for our houses.</p> |  |
| <p>Music</p> | <p>In Music we are going to learn how to become performers. We are going to learn and perform a new song called 'Big Bear Funk' where we will learn to find the pulse and beat. We will learn the words of the song by including simple dance movements and will include our own musical instruments as part of our final performance. Keep asking the children about the song at home... we are sure that they would love to perform it to you as the term progresses!</p> |  |
| <p>History</p> | <p>As part of our Jack and the Beanstalk story the children will continue to develop their vocabulary. Children will begin to unpick what the word 'castle'. We will learn to understand that castles are something from the past and how some castles are now called ruins. We will look at some of the features of a castle and will recreate our own versions using our large construction space in our outdoor area.</p> |  |
| <p>Computing</p> | <p>Children will continue to use iPads as part of their everyday play. We will continue to teach the children how to use technology to support what they are doing. Examples include printing their own work and retrieving it from our printer in school. Using the toaster during snack time. Using the oven, blender and timer during DT week. In addition to this we are going to provide the children with opportunities to programme a beebot and story maker. Children will begin to understand that computers need simple instructions in order to make them work.</p> |  |
| <p>DT</p> | <p>Towards the end of the half term, Reception class will be joining the rest of school in DT week. This will be a week where children will learn how to create their own meals and recipes. We have decided to focus on soup making, where children will learn which foods are vegetables and which are fruit. We will use this information to help us to decide which will be best for making a soup. We will think about the foods that we are growing in our garden and decide what we could do with them when they are ready. We will learn to peel, chop and blend vegetables. We will learn to use our senses to describe our soup and will create our own cup labels before sending our soup home for mummies and daddies to sample!</p> |  |

Our enrichment this half term: We will be taking part in Sports day alongside the rest of school on Tuesday 21st May (Wednesday 22nd May reserve day in case of bad weather). More details to follow. Who will be the cup winners this year?!