



# Bramham and Shadwell Federation

## Curriculum Newsletter: Class R September - October 2025



### Literacy

#### Reading

The children will have a daily RWI phonics session. This half term they will:

- Learn set 1 sounds



- Learn to blend and segment words containing these sounds.
- Play lots of games that involve 'Fred talk' (sounding out and blending words together such as c-a-t.)

#### Writing:

- The focus will be on pencil grip and accurate letter formation.
- Children will have the opportunity to practise their mark making skills through adult and child initiated independent challenges.

#### Comprehension

- We will be reading a range of fiction, Non-fiction and poetry books.
- The children will answer a range of how and why questions to check their understanding of the stories read.

### Mathematics

#### In Number:

- The focus will be on numbers 1, 2 and 3.
- We will learn 1 more and 1 less practically up to 3.
- We will learn to subitise using groups of objects up to 3.
- We will learn number bonds to 3 (1 and 2 makes 3, 3 and 0 makes 3)
- We will learn to explain our answers by using 'because'. We will model how to challenge answers by using 'I agree' or 'I disagree'.

#### In Pattern the children will:

- Look at a variety of 2D shapes, in particular circle, rectangle, square and triangle.
- Continue a repeating pattern and create their own repeating patterns.

### Understanding the World

- Our focus will be Autumn. We will explore and discuss signs of Autumn during our weekly outdoors sessions.
- The children will spend time hunting for bugs, spotting birds and foraging for our own autumnal materials to use in our transient art creations.
- We will sow seeds in our outside area.
- The children will use the interactive whiteboard and iPad to stimulate learning through games, activities and drawing programmes.
- We will find out about Diwali celebrations.
- The children will have Picture News assemblies with a topical focus. This will help to develop their understanding of British Values and protected characteristics.

### Communication and Language

- The focus will be 'Marvellous Me'. The children will talk about themselves and their families. We will be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction books linked to change, school and families.
- We will become word collectors, exploring the meaning of new and interesting vocabulary.
- The children will be learning a selection of stories and nursery rhymes.

### Physical Development

The children will develop their **gross motor skills** and be physically active through the daily provision of trikes, large building equipment, water channel construction, obstacle courses, den making and large scale painting activities.

In PE lessons the focus will be on travelling safely around a large space in a variety of ways with control and coordination.

Exciting **fine motor** activities will be provided to support children's developing pencil and scissor control.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- The focus is Transition
- The children will spend time settling in to school and getting to know each other and staff.
  - The children will learn about our behaviour system, 'The Best'.
  - The children will participate in Celebration Assembly every Friday in the school hall. If your child has been chosen as the **'Star of the Week'** you will be informed the week before and invited to attend the assembly.

### Expressive Arts and Design

- The children will be completing a number of creative activities using a variety of media and materials.
- We will be teaching the children how to use the resources and tools in the creative area independently.
- They will explore colour mixing.
- We will be following the Sparkyard music programme, learning songs and exploring percussion instruments.
- The children will use drama to further explore class texts.
- We will use harvested apples to bake apple crumble with the children this half term.

### Helping at Home

Here are some helpful reminders of the resources you can access at home to support your child's learning and key vocabulary that we would encourage you to explore with your child to help them with their learning.

<b>Literacy</b>	Weekly reading and phonics homework (this will begin later this half term) Please support your child in reading for 15 minutes at least three days a week.
<b>Maths</b>	Online access to Numbots – you will receive your log ins later this half term. Spot numbers whilst you are out and about. Count objects in and around your home and the local environment. Talk about 2D shapes that you spot.
<b>Understanding the world</b>	Key vocabulary: family, sibling, community, teenager,
<b>Expressive arts &amp; design</b>	Key vocabulary: artwork, join, colour, water colour, tool, paint brush, split pin, wax crayon, technique, mixing, pulse, rhythm
<b>Physical Development</b>	Target: put on and zip up coat independently. Challenge: Do up and undo buttons on trousers and cardigans
<b>PSED</b>	Key vocabulary: sad, happy, angry, excited, calm, resilience, perseverance, emotions, transition

#### Other ways to support at home:

- **Play games together:** Playing games together such as board games, card games and puzzle games can strengthen key skills such as problem-solving and resilience building.
- **Promote writing:** Looking for opportunities to mark make can be a great way to practise pencil control and apply sound knowledge – shopping lists, family occasion cards etc.

### Dates for the Diary and any other information

Our PE day will be Thursdays. Please could children come into school in PE kit every Thursday.

Every child should bring a named water bottle to school each day.

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September – flu immunisations

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September – individual photos

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 9.15-10.00 – Reception Stay and Play session

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2.30-3pm – Read Write Inc. parent information session

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October – Hello Yellow (World Mental Health Day – children wear yellow to school)

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October & Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – parent consultation meetings

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November – Reception height and weight checks

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November – Inset Day (school closed)