Topic Overview for Parents
Term- Autumn 1

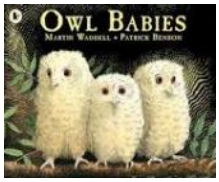
Welcome to our new topic, **'Good to be me'**



Rationale

It is the exciting start of the children's journey through school. During this transition topic they will be learning about themselves, developing friendships, building self-confidence and settling into school routines. There is a strong emphasis on the children's personal, social and emotional development to ensure they are happy, confident learners. They will explore who they are in relation to others and learn to celebrate similarities and differences.

TOPIC	Enquiry Question	Sparkly Starter
Good to be me	What makes me special?	**Marvellous Me!** Class teacher to introduce and demonstrate the 'Marvellous Me' session using their own photos and videos

Story Maker	Key Literature	Fab Finish
Owl Babies 	Owl Babies (Story Maker) Elmer Titch Funny Bones, Ruby's Worry Ravi's Roar Rainbow Fish The Colour Monster	Children to take the Owl Babies story home to retell to their families

Literacy

In Literacy we will be reading lots of favourite stories chosen by the children and the children will be learning to listen and answer questions about the stories that are read to them. We will also be helping children develop their sound awareness by teaching them about rhythm and rhyme.

We will be starting our *Read, Write, Inc.* lessons. These are carefully planned phonics sessions which will be focussing on one sound a day to gradually build up to reading short words using the sounds they know.

To get children ready to write, the focus this half term will be on the children's gross and fine motor skills to help give them the strength and dexterity they need to mark make and begin to form basic shapes and letters.

We will also be starting 'Drawing Club' sessions to help develop the children's communication, language, fine and gross motor skills and early mark making.

Numeracy

The children will be developing their knowledge of number and shape, space and measure. We will be focussing on numbers to 3, ensuring that children have fast recognition of both the number and the matching quantity, can count accurately, can solve practical problems with numbers up to 3 as well as being able to compare quantities using language such as 'more' or 'fewer'. The children will also be developing their mathematical vocabulary to describe shapes and objects based on their properties, size and position.

PSHCE

In PSHCE 'SCARF' sessions the children will be focussing on 'Me and My Relationships'. The children will think about themselves and what makes them special, special people in their lives, people who can help them and they will begin to identify and talk about their feelings.

Creative Arts

In our creative areas the children will be exploring a range of media. During 'Adventure Time', they will be specifically taught the skills for mark-making, mixing colours and cutting and sticking to create pictures.

Physical Development

This half term we will be developing our sports skills. The children will learn to move their bodies in a variety of ways and to vary their speed and direction in response to a given instruction.

Understanding the World

The children will be investigating the natural world by observing seasonal change. They will also be talking about where they live, celebrating differences between their own families and those of others as well as thinking about different occupations and ways of life.

Other Information

P.E.



- **Every Tuesday**, each class will have a P.E. session with our experienced PE coach, Coach Ben. Please can children come to school wearing their P.E. kit (***no laces please***). They will stay in their P.E. kit for the duration of the day. Children can wear jogging trousers and hoodies when the weather gets colder.

Water bottles

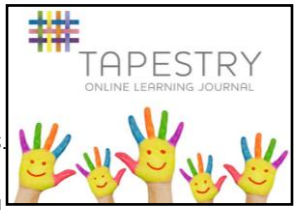


- Please ensure your child comes to school with a named water bottle every day. No squash / juice please!

Coats, hats, jumpers / cardigans

- Please ensure these are clearly named to help us get them back to the children at the end of the day.

Tapestry



- We have set up the children's online Tapestry journals. You should have received an email prompting you to log in to set up your account. If you haven't received an email with activation link, please check junk / spam folders and come and see us.

'All About Me' booklet and 'Things I can do…' sheet





- If you have not already given these to your child's class teacher during their home visit, please could they be returned to school by handing to your child's class teacher.

Fanily Photos

Please could you email the school office a family photo if you haven't yet done so? We find it helps the children to feel safe, valued, and connected between home and school. It supports the children emotionally and also allows the children to chat to each other about their families – encouraging them to develop vocabulary and speaking/listening skills.

Home Time

- If your child is being picked up by someone other than yourselves e.g. a grandparent, other relative, family friend or another parent, please ensure you have let your class teacher or the school know in advance. For your child's safety, we will be unable to release them into another person's care until this has been checked.

Reading Books and Homework

- Below is a table with some information about the different days books will be collected in and then re-issued.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
'Help to read' - reading books and diaries are collected in.  	**P.E. day**  New reading books are issued and diaries are returned. Library books collected in and changed. 		When your child is ready to start reading, 'Learn to Read' RWInc books, will be collected in on Thursdays. 	New RWInc 'Learn to Read' books and Homework issued- *more information to follow*

Dates for your Diary

Friday 2nd October - Individual photos

Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October – After school parent consultations

Friday 23rd October- last day of term.

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October Half term break

Monday 2nd November- First day back after the half term break

Monday 23rd November - INSET DAY for staff (school closed for children)

Many thanks for your continued support,

The Reception Team

