

Journeys



This half term we will be thinking about travel and how we do this. We will start off small and think about our local area- walking around, making observations and using maps. Then we will venture out wider into our world and think about Birmingham and England. We will explore modes of transport together and help the characters of stories when they face difficulties, like Mr Gumpy and his motorcar, or the broken-down bus.

Communication and Language:

Talking focus- Talking about how things work

This half term our communication skills will be developed and children will be taught about the skill of listening carefully and why listening is so important. What does a good listener look like? We will use our own experiences and shared events to describe events in some detail, extending our sentences and adding new vocabulary. Children will begin to engage in non-fiction books, listening to and talking about selected non-fiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary.

Personal, social and Emotional:

Being a responsible citizen- Taking part and belonging

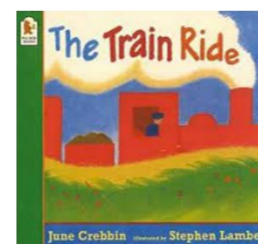
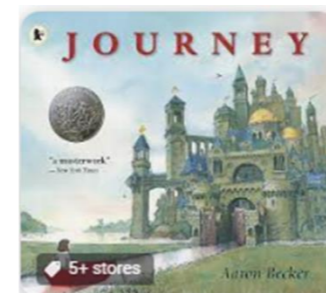
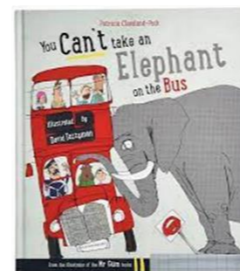
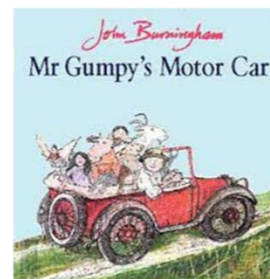
Key themes: School value- Determination
Fears and Phobias, Looking at people from different times, Representations of good and bad, Diversity

Celebration- Easter

As part of this half term's value of determination, adults will reinforce trying again, trying things in a different way and not giving up when things are hard. Adults will continue to support children to maintain good relationships and form positive attachments with adults and peers. This includes un-picking what a good friend is and what respect means. *Most* children should manage their own personal hygiene including toileting, oral health and understand the importance of healthy food choices and exercise. Adults will work alongside parents to develop this independence at home.

Physical Development:

As part of our indoor, outdoor and PE provision, children will continue to develop and hone their gross and fine motor skills. This half term children will be encouraged to combine different movements with ease and fluency, creating sequences and modelling this for friends. Children should be confidently and safely using a range of large and small apparatus indoors and outside, alone and in a group. In Real PE we will cover ball skills, balancing with a partner and listening and following instructions. This half term, children should continue to develop a strong pencil grip and be able to use a range of tools for writing and drawing.



Key events and experiences

- Walk around the local area
- Trip into Birmingham
- Bus ride

Parental engagement

- Joining us on trips and visits
- Phonics / Maths workshop
- Maths No Problem Workshop

Expressive Art and Design:

This half term children can hone their music making and dance skills, performing solo or in groups. Songs linked to journeys and transport will be learnt together and children can sing in a group or on their own. Children will continue to have the skills of developing storylines in their pretend play modelled by adults and there will be shared experiences of creating narratives. Children will continue to develop their own ideas through experimentation with diverse materials, e.g. light, projected images, loose parts, different textures, colours, shades and natural art. This half term, children should be independently choosing the right resources to carry out their own plan.

Literacy:

This half term, a range of non-fiction and fiction books will be used to support children's learning and engagement with Journeys and Travel. We begin our topic with 'Mr Gumpy's Motor car' and our children will help Mr. Gumpy to solve his problems. Adults will use enquiry-based exploration such as what do we do with the broken-down bus, and how do we find the treasure in Hall Green (using a map). As we move through the Literacy and Read Write Inc curriculums, children will need more opportunities to use and apply their sounds. Shared story writing with staff will be one of the ways, but we will also model and explore adding labels, making simple sentences and recording our thoughts and ideas. With support we will learn some of our high frequency words and some tricky red words, applying these when we are reading and writing. Staff will support children to vocalise their thoughts and ideas and narrate what they are doing, extending vocabulary and conducting sustained, shared thinking.

Maths:

We continue with our maths no problem studies and children will build on their practical knowledge and add one and subtract one (within numbers to 10) using concrete resources. Children will continue to develop their understanding of the 'one more than/one less than' relationship between consecutive numbers. Within play based and practical activities children will continue to compare length, weight and capacity and continue, copy and create repeating patterns.

Understanding the World:

Our main focus this half term is for children to be able to explain how things work and why things might happen- using and applying new vocabulary and language skills. We will use vehicles and modes of transport to support the understanding that pushes and pulls are forces, and children will explore different things that we push and pull. This will lead into us thinking about what vehicles are made of, talking about the differences between materials and some of the properties they have. As the seasons and weather change, we will talk about the seasonal features of Spring. Children will begin to explore local landmarks and develop the ability to locate them on a map, using maps to identify Birmingham and the local area. Finally, we will explore old and new transport and relate this to the children's own lives and experiences, learning how to recognise the difference between past and present in their own and others' lives, commenting on images of familiar situations in the past.