

Literacy and Drawing Club:

We will continue to focus on developing our fine motor skills and pencil grip, through lots of fun activities. During the first half term the children embraced the challenge of writing their name and drawing different lines and shapes. We will continue to build upon these mark making skills to start to form letters linking to phonetic sounds and begin segmenting words to write.

In Drawing Club, we will continue to focus on a new story or animation every week and introduce new vocabulary with exciting actions to help the children remember the words. The children will then be set challenges to draw pictures to go with the story and add passcodes linking to phonics and maths concepts throughout the week. The passcode challenges are aimed at each individual child's cup of confidence.

Understanding the World:

During this topic we will begin to learn about the solar system, astronauts, rockets, planets, stars and asteroids. This will link with the focus texts 'Look Up' and 'How to Catch a Star'. We will also learn about dinosaurs linking to the focus text 'Dinosaur Department Store'. Children will learn the names of the different dinosaur, key features and what they ate. We will also focus on developing the concept of past and present by thinking about how long ago they lived using our timeline.

In RE, we will be focussing on the question 'What is Christmas?' and learn about the concept of giving gifts, saying thank you and the Christmas story. We will also be learning about the Hindu festival of lights called Diwali.

Personal Social and Emotional Development:

Our focus this half term is 'Celebrating Difference' which leads on from our circle time discussions before the half term break. We will be focusing on families, houses and homes and feelings.

We will continue to focus on taking turns with resources and develop independence e.g. getting changed for PE, looking after their belongings and eating lunch in the hall.

Communication and Language:

We will continue to learn new vocabulary during Drawing Club sessions and have opportunities to retell stories using props in exploring time. We will also be learning new songs, poems and rhymes.

Children will take part in circle time discussions and will have the opportunity to share their thoughts and listen to others.

Physical Development:

During our PE sessions children will develop their expressive movement through dance. Children will explore and develop traveling actions, shapes and balances. They will have the opportunity to perform to others and begin to provide simple feedback to one another. We will also continue to focus on developing our fine motor skills (muscles in our hands and arms) and gross motor skills (focusing on developing core strength).

Mathematics:

During our daily Maths sessions we will continue to develop children's understanding of counting, subitising, comparing and ordering numbers through lots of fun practical activities.

We will use songs and rhymes to help children join in with a counting sequence. We will also develop the concept that the last number in the count tells us 'how many' (cardinality) there are and focus on counting with 1-1 correspondence. The children will also compare sets of objects by matching and begin to develop the language of 'whole' when talking about objects which have parts.

We will also continue to learn how to represent numbers in different ways during our 'Number of the Week sessions'.



Expressive Arts and Design:

We will learn and apply different techniques to our independent creations e.g. cutting, gluing, bending, scrunching, hole punching, linking folding and using tape. We will also focus on two key artists and create our own artwork inspired by them: Lucienne Day (printing) and Alma Thomas (collage). Towards the end of the half term we will have lots of opportunities to take part in learning and performing Christmas songs as well as making Christmas crafts.