

Overview: This half term we will be exploring the theme of 'Winter Explorers' through a range of learning opportunities. We will learn about the seasonal changes that happen at this time of the year and explore these during our welly walks. The children will think about how we look after ourselves in winter. We will then learn about places where these weathers are more prominent e.g. the Arctic and Antarctica and learn about the different animals that live in these places, comparing them to animals that live in this country. The children will also explore where these places are in the world using a selection of maps. Towards the end of the half term, we will learn about different people in our community who help us. We will be inviting some visitors into school to share with us their jobs and how they help others. During this half term, the children will learn about Chinese New Year and how this is celebrated.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will continue to embed the school rules of 'kind, safe and ready' in their independent learning time. They will learn about how we stay safe in school and in the community and the people in school and the local community who help keep us safe. The children will also learn about being independent with their self help skills and how we can look after ourselves during weather changes. We will be learning about how we can set ourselves simple goals at school and how we can achieve these. We will continue to develop our understanding of different emotions and how we can manage our feelings.

Physical Development

This half term, Coach Ashley from R and R Sports will be teaching the children multi skills activities and developing their ball skills. In our other PE session, the children will develop their dance and gymnastic skills. The children will be encouraged to hold a pencil for writing effectively and form their letters accurately.

Communication and Language

This half term, the children will continue to learn songs, listen to lots of stories and learn to identify key events in narrative. The children will identify 'who,' 'what,' and 'where,' in stories and begin to sequence the beginning, middle and end of narratives. The key texts that we will focus on will be 'Goodbye Autumn, Hello Winter' which will support the children to identify the signs of winter. We will also explore 'Lost and Found,' 'Poles Apart,' and a variety of non fiction texts about different people who help us. The children will be exploring a range of new vocabulary and using this in their play.



Literacy

We will be applying our knowledge of phase 2 phonics to read and write CVC words, labels and captions. We will begin to learn Phase 3 vowel digraphs and continue to develop our blending and segmenting skills to read and write words with these sounds in

Week 1 - ai, ee, igh, oa

Week 2 - oo, oo, ar, or

Week 3 - ur, ow, oi, ear

Week 4 - air, er, words with double letters: dd, mm, tt, bb, rr, gg, pp, ff

Week 5 - longer words

Week 6 - review/assessment week

Each week, the children will learn new tricky words as outlines below:

Week 1 - review

Week 2 - was, you, they

Week 3 - my, by, all

Week 5 - are, sure, pure

Week 6 - assessment week

The children will be continuing to practise their letter formation. They will also begin to write phrases in phonics and literacy sessions.

Maths

We will begin this half term recapping numbers 0 – 5 and how these numbers can be represented. The children will use this knowledge to compare quantities, understanding that one quantity can be more than, the same as or fewer than another quantity. The children will continue to develop their understanding that all numbers are made up of smaller numbers. We will spend some time exploring weight and capacity before moving onto exploring the numbers 6, 7 and 8. The children will begin to combine 2 groups to find the total. We will be exploring the language we can use to describe length and height. The children will learn to order and sequence important times in their day and use language related to time.

Understanding of the World

We will be learning about comparing different places in the world using maps and texts to discover similarities and differences. We will also be learning about the roles of different people in our local community. We will learn about how people celebrate Chinese New Year and how this compares to other festivals that we have learnt about so far this year. In RE, the children will be learning about Jesus as a Storyteller.

How you can support at home

Please read with your child as often as you can. Sometimes your child may be too tired to read and that's okay! On these occasions, they may prefer it if you read a story to them instead.

Continue to practise the phonemes, tricky and high frequency words that are on sticky labels in children's reading records. If your child can read these words they can practise spelling them.

Please keep checking Seesaw as we will continue to use this to communicate what we are learning and how you can discuss and talk about our learning in school at home with your child. There will be some home learning tasks set on Seesaw too.

Engage with your child in conversations at home about the themes we are learning in school. We really value contributions on Seesaw of photos or videos of things you are doing at home that supports the learning in school.

Hiltingbury Heroes: Learner for Life

This half term, children will focus on the skills of Georgie Giraffe as they learn to become reflective in their learning. The children will be supported to reflect on their learning identifying positive things and ways that maybe they could improve next time.



Expressive Arts and Design

The children will learn how to use a variety of tools to create their own boats that will float for the penguin in Lost and Found story to return safely home. In art, the children will use the works of the artists Claire Youngs to explore a range of techniques (printing, collage, drawing and painting) and create their own animal art. We will be using a range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments to accompany songs and stories recognising repeated patterns.

Reminders and Key Dates

Books can be changed daily outside the classrooms.

PE days – Tuesday and Thursday

Please ensure everything is named!

Friday 10th January – Dress up day – Children to come dressed as someone who helps us. This could be a police officer, nurse, vet, teacher, dentist etc.

Friday 20th January – Chinese New Year Celebrations