

## Autumn 1 2023

**Overview:** This half term, our topic 'Marvellous Me' will support children in settling into their new class and school environments, learn about our new friends and understand similarities and differences between ourselves and others using the text 'Elmer.' We will learn about our likes and dislikes and find out about our families. The children will learn about the season of Autumn and identify the signs of Autumn during our welly walks. We will learn about Harvest through the story of 'The Little Red Hen' and the children will have the opportunity to bake their own bread. We will end the half term with our whole school 'Arts Week'.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

In the first half term, settling into a new environment with new adults and peers is the main focus of our learning. The children will have the opportunity to learn about their peers through sharing their 'All About Me' bags. The children will be introduced to our school rules of 'be safe, be kind, be ready'. We will be encouraging the children to play in groups, extending their ideas and collaborating with others. We will be discussing similarities and differences between ourselves and others using the book 'Red Rockets and Rainbow Jelly' as our hook. We will also explore the story of 'Elmer' which will encourage the children to discuss and identify differences and similarities and think about how we are all unique and special.

### Communication and Language

We will be learning to listen and respond appropriately to our peers and adults through small group activities and whole class input times. The children will learn a variety of stories, rhymes and songs, learning new vocabulary and trying to use any new words in our play. During role play and small world play we will retell stories we know from our own experiences. When listening to stories, we will learn how we can retell these verbally, using pictures and in role play.



### Physical Development

Through our PE sessions in the school hall we will explore a range of large and small body movements that will help to develop our core strength. We will use a variety of tools safely and with control. The children will explore malleable materials by patting, poking, squeezing, pinching and twisting them. We will be learning to colour carefully and trace accurately, developing our pencil grip using our dominant hand.

### Phonics and Literacy

We will begin our phonics programme 'Little Wandle' and introducing children to the sounds that the letters make. The children will be learning to blend these sounds to read some simple words using the sounds that they have learnt. The children will be taught the sounds in the following order:

Week 1 s,a,t,p

Week 2 i,n,m

Week 3 g,o,c,k tricky word - is

Week 4 ck, e, u, r tricky word - l

Week 5 h, b, f, l tricky work - the

Week 6 - assessment week

The children will explore the text 'The Little Red Hen' and learn to retell the story using actions.

## Maths

We will be exploring our class visual timetable to understand the structure of our school day and understanding position words when tidying things away. During our Elmer theme, we will explore patterns and use a variety of resources to create our own patterns. The children will learn how to sort a variety of objects in different ways. We will begin to represent, compare and understand the composition of the numbers 1,2 and 3.

## How you can support at home:

Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible with self help skills – putting shoes and coats on by themselves, encouraging them to learn how to take their school jumper on and off.

At meal times, encourage them to use a knife and fork to cut up their own food.

Please show your child their name labels on their clothes and on their book bags.

Share a selection of stories at home, looking at the pictures, asking questions and discussing new vocabulary.

Become involved with the learning at school through Seesaw e.g. discussing likes and dislikes, finding out about the season of Autumn.

## Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be exploring a range of mark making resources and a range of creative materials. They will be learning about primary colours. The children will learn to draw a self portrait. We will learn a range of songs and join in with actions. The children will learn to use their experiences to engage in a range of role play situations.

## Understanding of the World

The children will be introduced to our class calendar, understanding that events happen in the past, present and future. We will be learning about similarities and differences between families and naming and describing people who are familiar to us. Each week, the children will enjoy a welly walk where we will explore our local environment and use a wide range of vocabulary to describe what we see. The children will learn about the season of Autumn and how bread is made. In RE, the children will be learning about 'belonging.'

## Hiltingbury Heroes: Learner for Life:

This half term, children will focus on the skills of Frankie Fox as they develop their self-management skills. Children will be supported to develop their independence through managing simple routines, organising resources and tidying up.

## Reminders and Key Dates:

Parents Evenings – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Baseline – during this half term we will be carrying out the statutory baseline assessments.

Please ensure that all clothing and water bottles (no squash) are clearly named.

PE days – Tuesday and Thursday (children to come in in PE kits for the whole day)

Books – children will be able to choose a sharing book and change these daily.

Please ensure the children have a pair of named wellies in school.

Please ensure ALL clothing is clearly named.

## Seesaw

Please check your emails for notifications. We will use Seesaw as a way of communicating with you about what we are learning about in school and how you can support at home.

