

Curriculum Newsletter

Summer 2

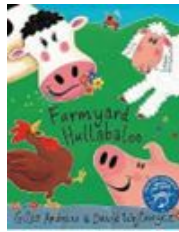
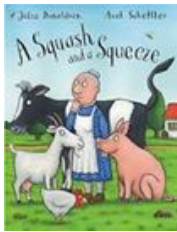
PORTFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

EYFS

On the farm/Pesky Pirates

This half term is split into two topics; Fun on the Farm and Pesky Pirates. We will be starting our farm learning with our exciting trip to Rookery Farm on Friday 5th June. As young farmers, we will learn how to care for animals and experience some different roles of the job. In our pirate topic, we will be creating and following maps, digging for treasure and hopefully not walking the plank! We will also be hosting our very own 'Pirate Day' where the children will come to school dressed like pirates.

There are lots of other exciting things planned for the children, including sports day, forest school and transition day, where the children will meet their new teacher for year 1.



Communication & Language

In Communication and Language, we will focus on developing children's listening, understanding, and speaking skills through a range of engaging activities. Children will be encouraged to listen attentively in different situations, take part actively in lessons and group discussions, and begin to anticipate and talk about key events in stories. We will support them in using new vocabulary, expressing their ideas clearly, and asking thoughtful questions to deepen their understanding. As they grow in confidence, children will be guided to use language to explain, reason, and share their thoughts in conversations, building towards sustained back-and-forth discussions with both adults and their peers.

How can I support at home?

Sharing stories together – pause to talk about what might happen next, discuss characters, and ask your child questions about the story. Encourage your child to speak in full sentences and introduce new vocabulary during everyday activities such as cooking, shopping. Take time to have conversations with your child about their day, modelling how to listen carefully and respond with interest. Encourage them to ask questions and explain their ideas. Playing games, role play, and imaginative activities are also wonderful for developing language, as children practise speaking, listening, and expressing their thoughts. Singing songs, rhymes, and retelling familiar stories can further build confidence and fluency in speaking.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

In Personal, Social and Emotional Development, we will support children in understanding and managing their feelings, especially when faced with changes or challenges. They will learn how to resolve conflicts with others using language and begin to recognise and respond to the feelings of those around them.

Children will be encouraged to set simple goals, stay motivated, and develop perseverance when trying new or challenging activities. We will also focus on building independence, including following instructions, making positive choices, and understanding the importance of rules, values, and keeping themselves healthy and safe.

Through group activities and play, children will develop their ability to work cooperatively, build friendships, and show kindness and consideration towards others, helping them to feel confident and secure as part of our school community. We will also support children in preparing for the transition to Year 1, helping them to feel confident, independent, and ready for the next stage of their learning.

How can I support at home?

Encourage independence by giving your child small responsibilities such as tidying up, dressing themselves, or helping with simple tasks at home. This builds confidence and perseverance. You can also support goal-setting by helping them choose something they would like to achieve and talking about the steps needed to reach it. To support the transition to Year 1, you can talk positively about what will be similar and different.

Physical Development

We will continue to develop our fine motor skills so that we can use a range of tools competently, safely, and confidently. We will be able to cut out more complex shapes with scissors and maintain a tripod grip when writing for longer periods.

In PE, our topic will be Athletics. We will learn to run with control and to change speed when running, as well as develop our understanding of sportsmanship and fair play. We will also be practising and preparing for Sports Day, building confidence in participating in races and working as part of a team.

How can I support at home?

You can support your child's fine motor development at home by encouraging activities that strengthen hand muscles and coordination, such as cutting with scissors, colouring, drawing, threading beads, or using tweezers to pick up small objects. Encourage your child to hold pencils and crayons using a tripod grip and praise effort when they are writing or drawing for longer periods.

For PE and athletics, children benefit from plenty of opportunities to practise running, balancing, and moving in different ways in safe outdoor spaces such as parks or gardens. You can support them by playing simple running games, encouraging them to change speed and direction, and talking about how to move safely and with control.



Literacy

The children will be invited to attend Drawing Club this is a story-led activity where children are invited to use their imagination, creativity, and early writing skills in a fun and purposeful way. Each session begins with a familiar story or animation, which is used to spark ideas and inspire the children's drawings.

Children are then given a simple "mission" linked to the story. This might involve drawing a character, designing a magical object, or creating something to solve a problem within the narrative. As they draw, children are encouraged to talk about their ideas, use new vocabulary, and think carefully about what they are creating.

Drawing Club is not just about drawing; it also supports early writing, language development, and confidence. Children begin to attach meaning to their marks, use storytelling language, and share their ideas with others. It helps to build imagination, communication skills, and a love of storytelling in a playful and engaging way.

How can I support at home?

You can support your child at home by giving them regular opportunities to practise blending and segmenting sounds in everyday activities. For reading, encourage your child to sound out simple words and then blend the sounds together. Point out words in books, signs, or around the home and ask them to try reading them. For writing, say a word slowly together and help your child identify the sounds they can hear before writing them down. You could also encourage them to write simple labels, lists, or captions for their drawings. Regular, short practice in a fun and relaxed way will help build confidence in both reading and writing.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, we will be developing a strong understanding of numbers up to 10, including exploring how each number is made up of smaller parts. Children will build confidence in recognising quantities quickly without counting (subitising) and begin to recall number facts such as number bonds and doubles. We will also extend our counting beyond 20, helping children to recognise and understand number patterns. Children will compare quantities, using mathematical language to describe which is more, less, or the same. In addition, we will explore patterns within numbers, including odd and even numbers and how groups of objects can be shared equally. These skills will help children develop strong number sense and a secure foundation for future maths learning.

How can I support at home?

You can support your child at home by practising key early number skills in short, regular bursts. Encourage your child to recall number bonds to 5 and some to 10, for example asking " $3 + ? = 5$ " or " $9 + ? = 10$ ". You can do this through quick oral questions during everyday routines. Help your child practise counting to 20 and beyond. Give them a starting number and ask them to count forwards and backwards from it to build confidence with number sequences. You can also support number formation by encouraging your child to write numbers carefully, using correct direction and shape. Finally, practise recalling doubles to 10, such as double 2 or double 4, using objects, fingers, or quick mental recall. Keeping activities fun and frequent will help build confidence and fluency in maths.



Expressive Art & Design

In Music, children will have the opportunity to play both tuned and untuned instruments musically. They will create simple two-note patterns to accompany songs and begin to reflect on their performances, thinking about how they can improve and develop their ideas. In Art, we will explore the work of Jackson Pollock and create our own splatter art pieces, focusing on colour, movement, and expression.

Understanding the World

In Understanding the World, children will learn to name different parts of animals and recall the names of their young. We will explore how farm animals are different from wild animals and deepen our understanding of the natural world. Children will also develop their speaking and storytelling skills by recounting familiar stories and real experiences, including our trip to Rookery Farm. We will look at pictures from the past, make simple comparisons, and begin to understand how things change over time. In addition, children will create their own maps to represent familiar places and continue to explore scientific ideas through hands-on investigations, including testing and discovering what floats and sinks.

Upcoming Dates

Additional Information

For more year group information, please visit the class pages on our website.

<https://www.portfieldsprimaryschool.org/children/class-pages>

