

Fabulous Festivities

This half term is all about Splendid Spring! We will be exploring growing and life cycles, and learning how plants and animals change over time. Later in the term, we will also be learning about Easter and what it means. We will be welcoming some eggs in an incubator, and the children will have lots of fun guessing what might hatch and observing the changes each day. It promises to be a busy and exciting half term full of curiosity and discovery. We are also looking forward to our Easter Hat Parade and can't wait to see the wonderful creations the children come up with. In addition, World Book Day will be a highlight, and we are excited to see all the fantastic costumes inspired by favourite stories!

Communication & Language

In Communication and Language, we will be able to use new vocabulary in class discussions, as well as during play. We will contribute thoughts and ideas to our peers and be able to talk back-and-forth with other children during Explore & Learn. We will answer 'why' questions with some accuracy and use full sentences when giving explanations, which will be more detailed.

How can I support at home?

Talk to your child positively about their school day. Ask your child questions about their learning and encourage them to answer in full sentences. Model language to your child by extending what they say, for example by adding an adjective, a synonym, an antonym, or an action word. This helps to develop their vocabulary and confidence when speaking. Below is some vocabulary you can look at together to support their learning next term.

Life cycle

The stages a living thing goes through as it grows and changes (seed → plant → flower).

Artist

A person who makes pictures, paintings, or crafts.

Plant

A living thing that grows in soil and needs water, air, and light.

Root

The part of the plant under the soil that holds it in place and drinks water.

Stem

The long part that holds the plant up and carries water to the leaves and flowers.

Soil

The dirt where plants grow.

Leaves

The green parts of the plant.

Flower

The colourful part of a plant that can make seeds.

Petal

One of the soft, colourful pieces of a flower.

Easter

A spring celebration often linked with new life, flowers, chicks, and eggs 🐣 🌸



Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

In PSED, we will develop our ability to recognise the feelings of others and the impact we can have on how others feel. We will become more independent at turn taking and be more confident at trying new activities. We will begin to self-evaluate our work and talk positively about our own abilities. We will stop when our name is called and look, listen and respond appropriately to an adult. We will be able to talk about our school rules and be able to name some of the Bridge Values. We will learn about healthy and unhealthy food and the importance of staying active.

How can I support at home?

At school we will use the phrase 'Choose it, use it, put it away'. You could replicate this language at home to encourage your child to tidy up after themselves. Please see our PSED/Manners curriculum on the website for our weekly focus.

Physical Development (PD)

In PD, we will develop our gross motor and fine motor skills. We will use three fingers to grip a pencil and learn how to hold and transport scissors safely, as well as how to cut straight and curved lines. It has been great seeing the children beginning to fasten their own coats. Please continue to practise this at home. In PE we will be learning gymnastics, learning some balances and rolls, as well as how to perform jumps from apparatus.

How can I support at home?

Encourage your child to hold their pencil using three fingers. Allow your child to use child appropriate scissors to begin to attempt to cut paper. Remind your child how to hold their scissor safely.



Literacy

In literacy, we will read all of the set 1 letters and special friends. We will begin to read words with four and five letters, and some simple sentences. We will read a few common exception words. We will continue trying to write the taught graphemes with the correct formation and write some words containing special friends.

How can I support at home?

Enjoy sharing reading books with your child by reading to them and talking about the story, characters, and setting. This helps develop their understanding, vocabulary, and love of reading. Please listen to your child read their phonics reading book daily and record the date in their reading record. Reading every day makes a huge difference to your child's progress, helping them build confidence, fluency, and strong reading skills. You can also support your child by checking the school website for videos related to their phonics group.

Mathematics

In maths, we will go on to develop a deeper understanding of numbers to 10, looking at combining groups, making pairs and conceptual subitising by sorting objects into smaller groups. We will learn about length and height and will think about the times at which things happen. We will use language such as now, before, later, soon, after, then and next, to describe when events happen.

How can I support at home?

Encourage your child to talk about when things happen during the day, using words such as *morning*, *afternoon*, and *evening*. This helps them understand time and daily routines. Ask your child to make pairs of objects and talk about whether there is an odd or even amount. Practise doubling numbers up to 5, for example, *double 2 is 4*. You can also ask your child to find pairs of numbers that make 5, such as *4 and 1 make 5* or *2 and 3 make 5*.

Understanding the World

In religion, we will look at the festivals of Holi, Ramadan and Easter. We will explore the ways in which we have changed over time and talk about events that have happened in our own lives. We will be able to name different parts of a plant and observe the life cycle of a chick.

Expressive Art & Design

In art, we will learn about the art of Giuseppe Arcimboldo and Eric Carle. We will continue to develop our art skills through colour mixing and demonstration control when using paint brushes.



Upcoming Dates

Mon - 23.2.26 - Children Return
Mon - 23.2.26 - Parents Evening Bookings Live (5:30pm)
Thu - 5.3.26 - World Book Day
Thu - 5.3.26 - Parent Reading Drop In (08:30 - 09:00)
Fri - 6.3.26 - EYFS Forest School (am+pm)
Thu - 12.3.26 - Class & Leavers Photos
Fri - 13.3.26 - Bridge Day
Tue - 17.3.25 - Parents Evening
Wed - 18.3.25 - Parents Evening
Tue - 24.3.26 - Easter Discos
3:30-4:30 - EYFS
Thu - 26.3.26 - EYFS Spring Hat Parade - 2.45pm (The Playground)
Fri - 27.3.26 - Last Day of Term

Additional Information

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

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

