

Dear Parents and Carers

Below are some of the things we will be covering in Reception Class before the Christmas break. We hope you find this useful in understanding some of the things your child is learning at school and how you might be able to support them at home.

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is split into 7 areas. Three of them are now known as the 'prime areas'

**\* Personal, Social and Emotional Development      \* Communication and Language      \* Physical Development**

These work together and are fundamental in supporting the other areas.

The other four are referred to as the 'specific areas'

**\* Literacy      \* Mathematics      \* Understanding the World      \* Expressive Arts and Design**

These areas include essential skills and knowledge for your child to participate successfully in society.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher

## **Prime Areas**

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Continue to develop secure relationships with everyone in the class through being able to

- name peers
- share and take turns during games and activities
- talk to peers during play
- listen to other's thoughts and ideas
- talk about feelings and express them appropriately
- follow rules and routines
- work as part of a team
- ask for help when needed

### **Communication and Language**

- making up our own silly rhymes/rhyming strings (potions and spells)
- Alliterative sentences i.e. Sally loves silly sausages
- differentiating sounds - what can you hear, noticing changes in sound/s
- CD player - Listening Lotto games & stories
- R Time - listening to peers - giving attention and responding appropriately
- Pobble 365 pictures - discuss what can you see? What do you think?
- telling known stories and creating own
- talking through thinking & stages in play (connect ideas)
- give 2 step instructions i.e. stack chairs then get coat
- big focus on talking in sentences and modelling talk
- answering and asking questions about play, stories, pictures, observations

### **Physical Development**

- cont. developing correct pencil grip & letter formation
- transporting & using scissors safely (snipping/cutting)
- Motor Control activities - i.e. threading, using tweezers
- Forest Schools (every Friday morning)
- Healthy Movers sessions (daily)
- what makes us healthy humans?
- what happens to our bodies when we exercise?
- healthy & unhealthy foods/lifestyles
- writing opportunities - pencil grip & control
- obstacle courses
- scooters and outdoor equipment (playground)

## Specific Areas

### Literacy

- dinner menu - children to write their own name
- writing books - practising letter writing
- book bags - child to select books from class
- reading a range of stories and rhymes
- Read, Write Inc - phonics scheme
- writing table & resources (inside & out)
- Rhyming stories; rhymes & games
- cvc word games to support reading & writing
- writing labels for models
- Pobble 365 pictures -
- Role play writing i.e. potion writing
- Visit to Bodmin Library- writing labels for models
- alphabet song - capitals & lowercase letters

### Mathematics

- counting up to 20 & back (from any number)
- recognising **all** numbers to 20
- counting accurately through games & activities
- ordering numbers to 20 (including random nos)
- Numicon - number bonds to 10
- recognising 1 more/1 less
- adding 2 sets of objects
- taking away -removing objects
- make comparisons & use vocabulary associated with size, length, height
- recording numbers to 20

### Understanding of the World

- Halloween - our traditions and customs
- Diwali - what is it? How is it celebrated?
- Bonfire Night - traditions; safety etc
- Christmas - how do we celebrate
- What are we looking forward to?
- Weekly Forest School session
- Focus Children share their photos
- Sound lotto games - cd player
- Alexa - used for music & speaking and listening
- use of tablets
- Autumn - walk along the Camel Trail

### Expressive Arts and Design

- learning knew songs i.e. Halloween, Diwali, bonfire night and Christmas
- creating firework pictures
- Rangoli patterns
- making Diwali lamps from air-drying clay
- making potions - role play area
- shakers/claves - following patterns; syllable counting; making own patterns/music
- Christmas cards and 'gifts'
- Dancing & moving to different types of music
- model making (construction)

## Things you could do at home to support your child

Read/share a book at least 3 times a week with your child (don't forget to record it in your child's reading record)	Practise putting your coat on and doing it up	Use a knife and fork to cut up your food	Get to know your sounds really well by using the cards provided in your Homework packs
Use the cards in your Homework pack to make cvc words (words with 3 sounds)	Complete the handwriting sheets in your Homework Pack	Invite a friend around for a play date or meet them at the park	Talk about what makes your child special - what are they good at - what makes them, them?
Sing some nursery rhymes and make up your own	Give your child a 2 step instruction i.e. put your PJs on then choose a book - try moving to 3 steps	Practise using scissors to snip and cut paper	Play with a ball - throwing, catching, kicking, rolling, bouncing, aiming etc
Talk about what makes us healthy humans and notice what happens to our bodies when we exercise	Sing the alphabet song and get to know the letter names as well as its sound	Visit a place in Bodmin that you haven't been to before	Join Bodmin Library

## Questions you could ask your child instead of 'What did you do at school today?'

1. What was the book about that your teacher read today?
2. Did anyone make you laugh today?
3. Did you help anyone today?
4. Did you say "thank you" to anyone today?
5. Who did you sit with at lunch?
6. Did you like your lunch?
7. Did you do anything that was brave today?
8. What are you looking forward to tomorrow?
9. Did you learn any new words today?