

Firfield Primary School

Autumn Term 1 – Curriculum News

EYFS

Overview

Welcome to Firfield!
We hope that you have enjoyed your first few days at school, and are settling well into your new classrooms. It has been a pleasure to see so many smiling faces and to begin this journey with such wonderful children.



Our topic for this half term is 'All About Me'. We will be exploring this through explicit whole class teaching, small group sessions, and through continuous provision.

We will begin the year by administering the statutory Reception Baseline Assessment. It will assess the children's starting points in Communication, Language and Literacy, and Maths. The results will inform our teaching for the first term.

Communication & Language



Communication & Language will be at the forefront of everything we do this year. To begin with, we will be focussing on listening to others in small groups and on a one-to-one basis. We will be encouraging the children to talk and share their own experiences, and join in with familiar phrases and repeated refrains in stories and rhymes.

Literacy

Our Literacy sessions will focus around a book a week, which will link to different areas of our topic 'All About Me'. We will begin to introduce different literary skills, starting with oral re-telling and sequencing, and use of story language. We will be learning different nursery rhymes and poems and will practise reciting these. As we introduce Phonics, we will begin to work on letter formation and encourage the children to apply their phonics knowledge to their early writing.

Reading & Phonics

The children will read with an adult once a week during our Guided Reading sessions. During these sessions they will change their reading books. The children will be bringing home two different books – one that is phonetically decodable, and one that is designed to develop a love of reading. We kindly ask that you read these books 4 times throughout the week to help your child become a confident reader. As part of Guided Reading, we will explore a decodable book together, and will begin to develop our DERIC skills (Decode, Explain, Retrieve, Infer, Choice).



We will be following Essential Letters & Sounds as our phonics programme within school. The sessions will take place daily, with opportunities for oral blending, grapheme recognition, and application for reading and writing. One-to-one intervention sessions will be available for any children who need extra support.

Maths

In Maths, we follow the White Rose Maths scheme. During the first half of the Autumn Term, we will be matching and sorting; exploring and explaining similarities and differences. We will then move onto comparing amounts, size, mass and capacity, using mathematical language to do so. Finally, we will be exploring and making patterns.

Understanding the World

We will be learning about and exploring the world all around us, linked to our topic 'All About Me'. We will begin to develop a sense of past and present, linked specifically to ourselves and our lives so far. Then we will be exploring locality; where we live, how we get to school, and the location of things within our school environment and community. We will also be learning about seasonal changes, the human body and our senses.



Physical Development

As part of our fine motor development, we will be learning how to manipulate and use small tools, such as tweezers, pipettes and scissors. We will develop these skills throughout the year, building confidence and precision. We will also be developing our pencil grip and mark making skills. Our gross motor skills will be taught through our PE sessions, and practised in our outdoor classroom.

PE

Our PE days this term are:

Indoor – Thursday (am) – Mini Movers

Outdoor - Wednesday (pm) – Fundamental Skills



Please ensure that your child has their PE Kit in school on these days; a white t-shirt, black shorts and black plimsolls. As the weather gets cooler, a long sleeved black sweatshirt or hoodie, and black jogging bottoms will be needed for outdoor PE sessions.

PSHE

As a school, we follow 'Jigsaw: The Mindful Approach to PSHE'. This term, the theme is 'Being Me in My World'. We will be exploring ourselves and our feelings; how it feels to belong; why we need to be kind; and how we can be responsible.

Expressive Arts & Design

We love being creative in EYFS, so we will really enjoy developing our creative skills this half term. We will learn how to use a variety of different materials and combine them in different ways to create desired effects. We will also explore different ways of making music. In our Role Play and Small World areas, we will unleash our imaginations to take on roles and create stories.



Business Enterprise

As part of our broadening curriculum we are learning about business enterprise. We would love to host a few parents to talk with the children about the different jobs that they do and what skills children need to take on that job role in the future. If you could help out with this, then please speak to a member of staff and we can take it from there.

Behaviour

Our three school rules of Ready, Respectful and Safe are very important to us. We will be looking closely at how we can show we are following them at all times and ensuring that we are using every second of the day to learn and grow. There are posters up around school which help us remember how to behave.



Contact

You can contact Mrs Tolson and Mrs Chambers through the use of Class Dojo. Events, key updates, reminders and activities from within the classroom will regularly shared on the Class Story. Should you wish to come and speak to a member of staff about anything in person, please feel free to drop in or arrange an appointment.

Important Dates

Monday 19th September – 2pm-3pm – EYFS walk around Breaston Village



As part of our topic, we will be exploring our local area by going on a walk! We will need some parent helpers, so if you are available to help and would like to come with us, please let your child's class teacher know. We will be in touch with further details nearer to the time.