

Year R Spring 1

Magic and Sparkles

This topic is all about stories. We will start by looking at the story of the 3 Little Pigs and other traditional tales, eventually looking at dragons using the book 'There is no dragon in this story'. We will also learn about Lunar New Year.

Mathematics :

In Maths we will be consolidating our knowledge of the following concepts through adult-led activities related to dragons and traditional tales:

- The number zero
- Comparing numbers and amounts to 5.
- Different compositions of the numbers 4 and 5.
- Comparing Mass and capacity
- Composition of the numbers 6, 7 and 8.
- Making pairs .

The children will continue to develop their counting skills to and back from 20. They will practise recognising numbers up to 20.

Reading and Writing

We will continue to have daily phonics sessions. Tricky words we will learn this half term are: was, you, they, my, by, all, are, sure, pure. We will have daily guided reading sessions in which the children will practise spotting tricky words and blending sounds to read. I will be encouraging the children to use their brilliant phonics knowledge to WRITE, WRITE, WRITE!! We will be writing for lots of different purposes such as invitations to parties, knights' diaries, menus for a banquet, magical stories and lots more.

Understanding the World

We will learn about the amazing dragons used in Lunar New Year celebrations.

We will also be learning about different materials and their properties by trying lots of exciting experiments.

We will investigate what happens to materials that are put in different places such as in water, in the freezer or in the sun.

Expressive Arts :

We will continue to develop our role play area by decorating it for New Year.

We will develop our painting skills by painting pictures of dragons..

In Music we will be working on recognising and responding to a steady beat whilst learning about how dragons and lanterns play a part in Lunar New Year celebrations.

Communication and Language:

We will be developing story grids to be able to verbally retell stories and invent our own. We will focus on giving and following clear instructions. We will also encourage the children to ask and answer questions which start with 'why'.

Some of the key vocabulary for this half term is:

SPIKY FIERCE SCALY ELEGANT WOOD PLASTIC METAL MATERIAL ABSORBANT WATER-PROOF HYGIENE HEALTHY EXERCISE

Physical Development :

The children will continue to have weekly P.E lessons in which we focus on using a ball as well as stretching and curling.

We will also be thinking about healthy food and keeping ourselves safe.

Religious Education:

So far this year we have been thinking about how God created the world and why Christians celebrate Christmas.

This half term we will be looking at the concept of Remembering. We will learn why Hindus remember Krishna's birthday.

TRICK BOX

We will continue to use the Trick Box programme to help the children understand and cope with their feelings.

The children are learning one new trick this half term:

Breathing colour: This teaches children about using their breathing to calm down and get rid of their negative feelings.

We will read the story 'Drew feels calm' where Drew learns to be calm when things don't go the way he planned.



Personal, Social and Emotional:

We will develop our understanding of how we are all different and that means we will have different views to each other. We will work towards tackling differences with our friends independently as much as possible.

Reminders

Reading books are changed every Monday, library books every Friday. Four reads at home earn a golden ticket!

Water bottles need to come to school every day and must only contain water, please.

Remember to use Tapestry to send pictures and updates about the things your child is doing at home.

Please label all of your child's belongings, including shoes.

Check the Year R page on the website each week to see what we've been up to!

Ways you can support your child at home :

- Share your child's reading book with them at least 4 times a week.
- Help your child practise their graphemes and tricky words daily.
- Practice counting backwards accurately.
- Play games which involve taking an amount away. Can your child say how many are left?
- Encourage your child to write for you e.g a list for the supermarket, a label for something, a message you need to remember or writing cards to people.
- Encourage your child to have a go at doing things on their own before asking for help (especially putting on coats, shoes and socks!)

KEY KNOWLEDGE TO BE TAUGHT THIS HALF TERM

Some materials are made by people, some materials are natural.

Materials have different names- wood, plastic, metal and glass.

Some materials change when you make them very hot or very cold.

Materials can freeze and melt.