



Grangefield School
Flying high. Spreading our wings.

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Dear Parents

Curriculum Termly Newsletter

Next term, we continue our 'It's a Bug's Life' topic. We will continue to build upon the skills and knowledge the children have already developed in the seven areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Communication and Language

Children will be encouraged to listen attentively in a range of situations for example, stories, whole school assemblies, visitors to the classroom and to each other. They will be following instructions involving several ideas or actions and they will be answering 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will be supported to maintain attention for longer periods of time and develop more independence when selecting resources and carrying out tasks. We will encourage the children to persevere at tasks they find tricky and to think of ways they could improve their work after they are finished. We will continue to develop the children's awareness of the need to respect and be sensitive to the needs of others, and we will be helping the children consider the consequences of their words and actions for themselves and others.

Literacy - Reading and Writing

The children will continue to develop their phonic skills at a level appropriate to them. This will include hearing and saying initial, medial and final sounds, linking and naming the letter sounds and their upper and lower case letter shapes and then using this knowledge to read and write simple words or sentences. The children will learn how to use finger spaces between words and when capital letters are appropriate. They will begin to write the key words they have learnt to read and be encouraged to use adjectives to make their writing more interesting. Now that the children are more confident, independent writers we will be looking to make them more conscious of their letter formation in an effort to make handwriting

Creative Development

The Reception classrooms are always a hive of creativity, and this term we will be making bugs out of clay, Producing water Lily paintings and collages in the style of Monet, and experimenting with new effects and textures. The children will be learning about the different families of musical instruments. They will also be learning about the different genres of music and how to listen carefully to the tempo and pitch of a piece of music in order to decide upon the atmosphere it creates. Please continue to send in items for junk modelling.

Understanding the World

Throughout the term the children will have the opportunity to utilise a range of programmable resources such as CD players, digital cameras, Learnpads and computers to support their learning. They will record their own performances and use these to develop the skill of improving and adapting their work. During Science week we will be carrying out a range of scientific investigations for example, magnetism, floating and sinking, colour mixing, planting seeds, freezing water and melting ice, bubbles and popcorn! We'll also be exploring the whole-school key question - 'Do taller people have bigger feet than smaller people?'

Physical Development

The children will continue to develop and enhance their fine motor skills this term. They will work on developing a secure, accurate pencil grip and their manipulation of small objects. During handwriting sessions we will be working on forming letters correctly and ensuring the size and position of letters on the page are correct. During PE sessions we will be practising for sports day and ensuring that sportsmanship is explored. We also have an external sports coach to help us with our athletics skills. Outside, we shall continue to develop a range of ball skills and team games. The children will learn about what it means to be healthy and the factors that contribute to this. They will also be able to describe the changes to their body when they are active.

Home Learning

The children will continue to bring home a levelled reading book and we would encourage you to read with your child daily. Don't forget to write in their reading diary so the children can get a new book and also get owl merits for their efforts. Please ensure that your child's zippy wallet remains in their book bag. Please continue to promote the sounding out of words that your child is unfamiliar with and keep practising the high frequency and tricky words. The children are doing a fabulous job with recognising these words and this will be a huge help to them as they progress with their reading and writing throughout the school. Making up your own stories or getting your child to help you change the ending of a familiar story is a fun way of promoting Literacy skills at home.

Continuing to practise one more and one less with different numbers and making up your own number problems (such as, 'We bought 5 apples from the shop and now we've eaten two, how many do we have left?') will also help your child to use and apply their number knowledge.

Thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Migliaccio, Mrs Patel
Mrs Clark and Mrs Smith