



9th September 2022

## Autumn 1 Newsletter

Hello and a warm welcome to the new school year! We hope you have had a lovely summer and your child has had plenty of rest.

Here is some information about what will be going on in the Emerald Class in the next half term.

Throughout the Foundation Stage, we shall be working alongside the Early Years Foundation Stage guidance. The principles which will underpin our work are grouped into themes:-

- A Unique Child
- Positive Relationships
- Enabling Environments

These will foster

- Learning and Development.

There are seven areas of Learning and Development which we will cover each week.

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication and Language
- Literacy, incorporating Reading and Writing
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design.

Although this may seem a little heavy-going, don't worry, we will be having lots of fun!

### **Our topic!**

Our topic for the first half of the Autumn term is 'Animals and their babies'. The children will experience a wide range of activities, from child-choice activities, such as role-play; construction toys; puzzles; games; books; sand and water play; painting; drawing; play dough; outdoor play area; to more teacher-led activities which will involve investigation, lots of discussion and basic recording.

### **Weekly Letters**

Each Friday, we will send out a letter with information about the following school week. This will include key words, rhymes, numbers and learning enrichment. Please upload anything that you complete onto Tapestry.



In **Mathematics** we will focus on number songs and recognition, one-to-one counting, matching and sorting.

We will also be exploring patterns, capacity, mass, size and amounts. This will all be done through exciting and engaging activities.

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)** will give the children the opportunity to learn to play alongside others, take turns and share. They will learn to form good relationships with adults and peers, be confident to try new activities, express their feelings and initiate their ideas. We will explore our school rules, talk about our emotions and personal hygiene during our weekly circle times.

Within **Literacy** and **Communication and Language**, development will occur in three areas; reading, writing and speaking and listening. Children will be given many opportunities to listen and discuss stories, songs, rhymes and poems. For writing, we will begin by making marks and talking about them, moving onto hearing the sounds words begin with and then being able to match the sound with the letter(s). This will lead onto the children being able to write the sound/letters and form them correctly.

We follow the **Twinkl** phonics scheme which is highly effective. We will be creating many purposeful writing opportunities where the children will be supported in practising and applying these skills. Lots of work on recognising the sounds in words will be done, as well as continuing to develop neat letter formation and good pencil control.

**Expressive Arts and Design**, will give the children the opportunity to explore and share their imagination, thoughts and feelings through a variety of art, design and technology, music, movement, dance and role-play activities. We will explore different tools to make marks, create a self-portrait and a whole class piece of art work based on our author focus.

In **Understanding the World**, the children will be given the opportunity to build and construct with a wide range of objects, solve problems, make decisions, experiment, predict, plan and question in a variety of contexts.

- We will explore and find out about the environment and look for autumn changes
- We will talk about our families and look at why we are all unique and special; peoples' cultures and beliefs
- We will explore a variety of animals and their babies; nocturnal animals; domesticated and wild animals
- We will look at ourselves and our bodies and how to keep healthy.

As the weather gets **colder**, please make sure your child has suitable outdoor clothing everyday including a warm, waterproof coat, hat, gloves and wellies, which can be kept in school. Little items can get lost easily, so if you can find somewhere to put your child's name in too, this should help to keep them safe.



**Physical Development** will provide a vast range of opportunities for children to develop both their fine and gross motor skills inside and outside. They will learn to move with confidence, imagination and safety.

PE will take place on a **Tuesday** afternoon with Miss Whittaker where we will be focussing on multi-skills. On **Thursday** afternoon, PE will take place with Mr

Whittingham. Please ensure that your child's PE kit is clearly labelled with their name! To maximise your child's PE time, your child will come home in their PE kit. If your child has long hair, please make sure that it is tied up on these days.

Your child will need to bring their PE kit in on these days.

### Calling ALL family members...

We would like to take the opportunity to invite parents, carers or grandparents into school to assist with children's development in reading and art activities. We would be very grateful of any help! This could be on a weekly basis or as and when you are available. You will be required to have a DBS check before starting and the school office will be able to complete this for you. If you would like to volunteer, please let Miss Whittaker, Mrs Butler or the school office know.

Your child will have access to fruit, milk and water throughout the day, but please send a named water bottle with your child each day. If you would like to provide your child with a healthy snack to have at morning break time, please put this into their book bag. We hope this newsletter gives you all of the important information you need. If you are not sure about anything, or would just like a chat, please speak to us after school.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Whittaker and Mrs Butler