

F2 Newsletter



Welcome to Edenthorpe Hall Academy Foundation Stage 2 (Reception). We have settled in very well to school life, made lots of friends and responded well to the adults, rules and routines in class and the wider school community.

Our topic for the second half term is **'Why do squirrels hide their nuts?'**



Personal and Social Development:



We will focus on understanding our feelings and the feelings of others, particularly how our actions can impact others. There will also be discussions around how we are different and although we celebrate different events there are similarities.



Literacy:

We will continue to follow the programme 'Read, Write, Inc' which is developing our knowledge of single letter sounds and also how to blend and segment them to read and write words and phrases. Please do look at our planning overview (on the cloakroom notice board) or ask a member of staff about the sounds for the week, or if you have any other questions.



Your child is also still welcome to choose and borrow story books for you to share and talk about at home from our 'lending library', accessible in class every morning.



Maths:

Our focus will still be on consolidating our understanding of number by ordering and matching amounts to written numerals and also the importance of carefully counting amounts, ensuring that each object is only counted once. We will also develop our understanding of '1 more' and '1 less'. Shape will also be a focus - learning shape names for 2 and 3d shapes, their 'properties' (what features make them the shapes they are) and spotting/investigating shapes in the environment. Pattern work will involve describing and making patterns, including repeating patterns.



Understanding the World:

Our focus will be about the seasonal changes that take place in autumn and through to winter, e.g. why leaves change colour, what happens to the animals, why squirrels hide their nuts. We will also look at fun and special days, festivals, etc, that take place during autumn e.g. Hallowe'en, Diwali, Bon Fire Night.



Creative:

We will use our colour mixing skills to mix autumnal colours and use this for hand prints, autumn paintings, patterns, etc. We will also be using clay to make 'thumb pots' (Diva lamps - link festivals) which will be decorated with patterns (link maths) and painted. Collage made with natural seasonal objects that have been collected on our 'autumn walk' will be used in 'transient art' activities and photographed. There will be lots of opportunities for us to develop our cutting, joining and sticking skills through both adult led and child-initiated craft activities.

ICT:



We will continue to use the programme Dazzle and create pictures/patterns to continue to develop mouse control and tool selection. We will also access number and reading activities. Please do help us to assess your child's technical ability by using the 'star moments' cards - what can they control at home? Do they choose and play computer games? Can they operate a remote control to select things on screen? Etc.



Physical Development:

There will be access to the outside area everyday where we can use large construction equipment (crates, etc) and also equipment such as hoops, quoits, bean bags, balls, etc. On fine days we will still be using the trim trail to continue to develop our self confidence.

During PE (Thursdays) will still be focusing on different ways of moving in and around space. We will be learning how to carry and use small apparatus, e.g. benches and mats, safely and how to work on and around them - jumping and landing safely, how to perform 'sausage rolls', what a good balance is.



Please help us by remembering to send your child to school with their PE kit (black shorts, white t-shirt) every Thursday



Other aspects of physical development will include fine motor control or 'Funky Fingers' e.g. threading beads, using scissors to cut more accurately. We will continue to develop correct letter/number formation, through 'Read, Write, Inc'. Please help us to ensure that your child is developing the correct pencil grip (we call it 'froggy fingers' in class').

We will continue to build the strength in our hands and fingers during 'Doh Disco' activities.

Notices/ things to remember;



Please bring PE kits on Monday and take them home again on Friday.



The children will have access to the outdoor area on a daily basis, whatever the weather.

We provide waterproof coats and trousers for all children to use but **please provide your child with a pair of wellington boots** (please write their name inside) so that they can participate fully in all of our outdoor investigational and messy play activities.



If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to pop in and see us.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs McGlone and Mrs Butler.

Here is our homework menu. You can choose to do these activities in any order over the course of the half term - photos can also be used. This may help your child talk about their work with us.

Make a friendly scarecrow. You could use old fabric, paper or packaging that you no longer need. Use it to help you sing the 'Dingle Dangle Scarecrow' song.



Create pictures, patterns or creatures using natural objects.



Look for signs of autumn. Collect, make a list/labels and count the animals, colours, seeds and anything else that you see. Sort the objects into groups and say how you sorted them.



Walk through autumn leaves and write/describe them - e.g. what they look, sound, feel like.



Talk about harvest. Draw a type of food that grows on a tree, under the ground, and on top of the ground.



Tell us about anything else exciting that you have done over autumn e.g. celebrations and special days, the things you wore, the food you ate, etc.

