

# CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the Autumn 1 edition of the '**Saplings Class**' newsletter. You will find lots of information about the curriculum, how to help your child at home and any other notes. If you have any questions, please ask the class teacher. Our current learning journey is: '**What makes me a me?**'

## Curriculum outline

**Communication and Language Development** Throughout this term our focus will be on exploring a variety of fiction and non-fiction books linked to our topic and encouraging children to share their own interests and knowledge about their body and how it works. We will be thinking about ways in which to keep healthy and the people that can help us when we are unwell. Our role play and small world area will also enable children to retell both new stories and facts and recreate their own experiences.

**Physical Development** We will be developing our fine motor skills through daily 'dough disco', our weekly funky fingers activities and during mark making and writing tasks. We aim to support all children in Reception to hold their pencil correctly using a tripod grip as this will support them to become fluent writers by the end of the year. We will spend lots of time outside this term developing our gross motor skills and managing our own risks when enjoying our climbing apparatus, outdoor sports area and weekly forest school visits.

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** We will be developing our turn taking and partner talk this term whilst learning the importance of effective communication and understanding that others may have different views and experiences to our own. But this is ok, as we are all unique and we should celebrate this. We will be looking at our similarities and differences in appearance, families and interests and talking positively about the things we are good at. Building our self-confidence to present to others.

**Literacy (Reading and Writing)** We will share 3 fiction texts this half term, 'What makes me a me?', 'Our class is a family' and 'Topsy and Tim go to the Doctors'. A non-fiction text will be used when exploring dental care. We will be developing our story language in 'Helicopter Stories' and use new vocabulary when creating our own narratives in role play. Children will be encouraged to anticipate events in the stories based on their own first-hand experiences and develop their inference when using illustrations to think about how the characters may be feeling. We will introduce children to line guides to support letter formation when writing, and practice building, holding and writing simple sentences and will take part in daily Read Write Inc sessions.

**Maths** We will begin exploring children's knowledge of 2d shapes, patterns, and number to 5 this term whilst completing the Reception Baseline Assessments. We will focus on the skills of matching, sorting and identifying numerals and representation of numbers this term using White Rose Maths.

**Understanding the World:** We will be exploring our own history when thinking about our family timelines and about the way in which we grow from babies to adults. When exploring ways to stay healthy we will also be exploring different occupations such as Doctors and Dentists and how they can help us. We will begin our science learning this term by completing investigations around how germs are spread and observing changes over time.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** Our main art focus this term will be sketching and using a pencil effectively to create self-portraits for our class community display. Children will also be creating their own X-Ray Art in chalk, paint and textiles.

## Helping your child at home

- Continue to help your child to write their full name and also know the 'Days of the week' in readiness for date writing in KS 1.
- Help your child to write their full name and practise recognising numbers to 10 in different environments, outdoors, around the home and when out and about
- Help your child to form the numerals 0 – 10 as this will help them when recording in maths
- Download and complete 1 minute maths APP from White Rose Maths to support fast recognition of numbers to 10.
- Talk about everything- their day at school, our current topic and class story, their favourite activities in the classroom, school meals, anything! And please share any special events with us on Dojo.
- Encourage children to hold their pencil correctly when drawing and writing
- Encourage children to dress themselves in a morning and put on and zip up own coats.



## Notes

- Please remember to put names in all clothes, including PE kit.
- PE will take place EVERY WEDNESDAY so please remember PE kits
- Please be reminded that **water only** is permitted in labelled bottles.
- Please remember your child needs a pair of wellies for Forest Fridays.

## Key Dates:

- Reception Baseline Assessments will be completed during the first 3 weeks of term, whilst we get to know your child.
- 4/09/23 – School reopens (See your child start date.)
- 26/09/23 – Book fair week
- 28/09/23 – Stay and read Coffee Morning
- Dental Nurse Visit in school – Date TBC
- 18/10/23 Parents Evening
- 20/10/23 – INSET day

