

Autumn term 2023- what we are learning in reception.

Theme: Independence

Faculty of English, literacy and communication

What will your child be learning?

Our theme is 'Independence'. Opportunities will be given to listen and ask and answer questions. We will encourage the children to use key phrases, question patterns and vocabulary when talking about our topics. We will encourage discussions and questioning whenever possible and will encourage all members of the class to actively contribute in a positive and nurturing way. We will be learning all of Phase 2/3 phonics sounds. Moving onto assisted and independent blending activities, tricky words and high frequency words.

We will provide plenty of opportunities to develop mark making skills using various different tools and mediums, for example pencils, pens, paint, foam, glitter, water and collage. We will encourage correct and comfortable pencil grips and will use fine manipulation activities like cutting and threading to encourage finger strength and fine motor skills. We will practise writing our names and letters daily and will provide lots of writing opportunities in our role play areas and other classroom activities. Opportunities will be given to use emergent spelling and attempts made to write in short sentences. Children will be encouraged to sit all of their letters on the line, using finger spaces between words, capital letters at the beginning and full stops at the end. The children will be encouraged to write tricky words and to recall appropriate vocabulary.

We will continue to reinforce the Phase 2 sounds. Phase 3 and 4 sounds will also be introduced. Blue, yellow, red, green, pink and brown tricky words will be introduced.

What can you do to help?

Ask and answer questions, share stories of your daily experiences and ask your child to do the same. Encourage your child to learn new vocabulary and phrases. Take a walk outdoors. Talk about the things you see and hear. Provide opportunities for "story time". Talk about the pictures in a book, ask and answer questions about what they have heard. Encourage your child to retell or join in with a favourite story. If words or letter sounds are mispronounced, model with correct spoken language. Practice sounds, tricky words and reading books every day. Find out information about the different counties and habitats that the different animals live in.

Encourage a correct and comfortable pencil grip using index fingers and thumbs - our tweety bird fingers. Show your child how you write in different ways - a message board, a puzzle, a shopping list or a party invitation. Practise writing your name and numbers daily. Ensure that wide lines are being used to sit all the letters on. Take care with ascending and descending letters.

Continue working on letter recognition and forming the letters of your name correctly. Ensure that a capital letter is only used at the beginning. Continue to work on Phase 2,3,4 sounds. Work on tricky words, blue, yellow, red, green, pink and brown.



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Faculty of mathematics and numeracy

What will your child be learning?

We will be practising writing our numbers correctly and counting, writing, ordering and comparing reliably up to at least 10 objects. We will be reciting a range of number rhymes and songs to help us recite numbers up to at least 10, forwards, backwards and from different starting points.

What can you do to help?

Encourage your child to count/recite numbers daily in the correct order. You can count the stairs you climb, cars in your toy box, tins in the cupboard etc. Listen to and join in with number rhymes. Many of these can be found on Youtube. Learn to recognise and name numbers. Can you find /name numbers on the telephone, remote control? What numbers can you see in the environment? (Numbers on cars, doors, price tags etc). Help your child to name basic 2d shapes (circle, square, triangle and rectangle). Explore and name the colours you see all around you and identify patterns seen outdoors/indoors (spotty jumper, striped socks, checked curtains etc.) Practise writing your numbers everyday. Look for ways in which you can find sets of things that are the same.



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Faculty of languages and culture

What will your child be learning?

Languages

Your child will learn through Welsh songs, stories and nursery rhymes. As part of our triple literacy approach pupils will also be developing their Spanish skills. They will be learning vocabulary around 'colours' 'numbers' 'family' and 'weather' and 'animals'.

Expressive Arts

We will develop creativity skills through role play , art, dance and music. We will explore a range of musical instruments and body percussion and will learn a variety of songs and rhymes. There will be lots of opportunities to create models from construction kits, recycled materials and to paint, draw, collage pictures. Self-expression through sound, movement and art works will be encouraged throughout all areas of learning. We will be recording many of the things that we are learning about all creatures great and small in a variety of ways, using painting, collage and digital images.

What can you do to help?

Languages

Encourage your child to use the Welsh they know at every opportunity, greeting people with bore da, prynhawn da, nos da, diolch, etc. Asking them to repeat their colours and counting in Welsh supports vocabulary retention. There are lots of songs on Youtube that we use in school that will also be of help using the Cyw app at home will support learning. We would also encourage you to read in Welsh with your child, or you can use the free Welsh audio books available on the link below. Pupils can use the Linguascope website to practise key Spanish vocabulary. There are also lots of songs related to the topics on Youtube.

<https://cyw.cymru/en/>

<https://drefwen.com/pages/free-welsh-audio-books>

<https://www.linguascope.com/>

Expressive Arts

Sing/perform a favourite song/nursery rhyme to members of your family. Make a simple musical instrument and perform a steady beat to music /songs of your choice. Talk about pictures drawn, paintings etc. Practise drawing pictures of yourself and your family. Try to add as much detail as possible.

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Faculty of STEM

What will your child be learning?

The children will be exploring how we can look after our pets, where they live, what they eat and how we can help them to stay healthy. We will be looking at how we can help to protect habitats for animals all over the world by recycling and taking care of our environments. We will be examining how to sort and group different types of creatures, and will compare and contrast their environments. They will also be learning about living and non- living things and the differences between them. They will be identifying and sorting varieties of different objects, pictures and materials using given criteria. Pupils will be looking at how to keep themselves clean and healthy and why those is so important. We will offer different opportunities to start recording our findings and what we are learning - photographs, drawings, simple pictograms and mark making. We will be offering them the chance to make choices about materials and methods when exploring, designing and building and will offer the children the opportunity to talk about these choices to their classmates.

What can you do to help?

Go on a senses walk, what do we see, and hear. Close your eyes and listen to the environment, draw what you heard and saw. What can they hear, smell or taste? Ask them what they use to see, hear, smell, taste and feel. Talk about their bodies and what they need to do to keep them fit and healthy. Plant some seeds or bulbs that the children can take responsibility for making sure they have enough water. Encourage their curiosity and join them in exploring their world.

Faculty of life

What will your child be learning?

This term we will be learning all about independence where we live in the world. We will be learning about different habitats, weather and what we need to survive. We will learn about people who influence us and how different religions provide support for others.

Pupils will be discussing the importance of being kind to one another and different feelings. We will talk about the things that we like to do, eat and what makes us happy. We will discuss how it is important to have a healthy body and mind. We will encourage turn taking and being a good friend. Children will take part in PE sessions developing their gymnastics skills, spacial awareness and balance. We will also discuss healthy eating and what happens to our bodies when we exercise.

What can you do to help?

Talk about the world and where we live. Talk about the locality and all of the different things that we can do. Are there any similarities with the countries in different parts of the world? What is the weather like? Do we all eat the same foods? What animals live in different places? What life is like for others around the world. How do we use our senses to discover the world around us?

Make sure your children have a good nights sleep. Talk about how they can stay healthy, have exercise, eat lots of different foods. Practise washing hands and talk about why it is so important to do this. Encourage them to dress themselves, especially to put their outdoor clothes on independently. Talk about and discuss different feelings and how they are feeling. What makes them sad? happy? angry? scared? Play lots of games with them encouraging taking turns, playing by the rules, listening to instructions.