

Long Mead Community Primary Foundation Unit Newsletter



9th September 2022

Dear Parents and carers

Welcome back to all of you who know us well and a very warm welcome the new families whose children have joined the Foundation Unit this term. This term our topic is 'All About Me' and these are some of the things we will be covering this term:

Communication and Language

We will be sharing stories, encouraging the children to join in with familiar parts. The stories we will be focusing on include: Starting school, So much, Mrs Wishy Washy, Dogger, Oliver's Fruit Salad, Giraffes Can't Dance, The Colour Monster and Funny Bones. We will focus on rhythm and rhyme, listening skills and working with a talking partner.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will focus on behaviour and self-control, getting along with others and being a good friend. This will involve learning to recognise and talk about our feelings, understanding how we can help others and understand the importance of sharing and taking turns. We will be learning about the school and classroom rules.

Physical Development

We will be learning to move in different ways, developing coordination and control. All the children will be taking part in weekly PE lessons on a Monday. Nursery will take part in their own clothes and reception will need a PE kit. We will also be focusing on developing the children's independence, for example getting their coats on and doing them up, putting shoes and socks on. Every morning we will be doing activities to develop fine motor control in readiness for writing.

Literacy

The children will be enjoying stories, rhymes and books to develop their literacy skills. All the children in the EYFS unit will be having daily phonics sessions. For nursery this will include listening walks, orally segmenting and blending, exploring loud and quiet sounds and looking at initial sounds in words. Whilst reception will begin learning their phonic sounds. We will be following the FFT - success for all scheme. They will be learning the letter sounds and focusing on hearing and saying the sounds in words. We will be playing games to develop the skills of orally blending sounds to create words. Towards the end of the term reception children will come home with a reading book to share with you at home to consolidate what they have been learning in school - more information will be given nearer the time.

Mathematics

We will be focusing on reciting the numbers in order, counting accurately and recognising numerals. The children will be solving simple problems using measures and practising key mathematical vocabulary.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be learning about ourselves and observing how we are all different, we will be making hand prints and painting self-portraits. The children will role-play familiar stories and retell their own stories. In music we will be using percussion instruments and building up a repertoire of familiar songs.

Understanding of the World

We will be learning the names of different parts of the body, drawing ourselves and making skeletons. The children will be observing the changing seasons and going on welly walks around the school to look at the leaves. We will also be doing leaf and bark rubbings.

The Reception Baseline Assessment

The children in reception will be taking part in a baseline assessment within the first 6 weeks of starting school. It is a short interactive assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematical skills. This assessment is happening nationally and the purpose is to provide a starting point for a new measure that will show how well schools support children to progress from reception to year 6. Children cannot 'pass' or 'fail' this assessment. It will be fun one-to-one time that your child has with their teacher and it will help us get to know the children and how we can best support their learning in school.

For further information about the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA) use the following link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1004560/2021_Information_for_parents_reception_baseline_assessment.pdf

Snack

Please can you send your child in with a healthy snack - fruit, breadsticks and raisins are always ideal. **NO** crisps or chocolate as we are teaching the children to make healthy choices.

Early Years Staff

Please note that staff are in school on the following days:

Mrs Hooper - Tuesday - Friday

Miss Webster - Monday

Nicky Wilson, Mrs Mitchell and Lois are in school all week.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to let us know, we are always happy to help.

Thank you for your support.

The Foundation Stage Team