

Reception Spring 1 2023-24

The Theme of Investigation (TOI) is: **Our Planet**

Our CENTRAL INVESTIGATION is: **Our planet is important**

We will investigate the CONCEPT of: **Environments**

The questions we might investigate:

What is the Solar System and what is our place in it?	What are our responsibilities on Planet Earth?	What other living things inhabit the Earth?	How can we take care of our planet and environment?
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Celebrations and Festivals

We are a diverse school with children from many different cultures and religions and this is something we ensure we celebrate. Some festivals/special days we may explore this half term include: St David's Day, St Patrick's Day, Mother's Day, Ramadan, Easter and how this is celebrated in different countries. If ever you have a celebration special to your family that you would like to support us with, please do let Mrs Stirling know.

Home learning – Reading books

Communication and Language: Encourage your child to orally make up their own stories.

Physical Development: Focus on developing those fine motor skills. Learning how to control a pencil isn't all about mark making and writing practice, children need to develop strength and dexterity first. Playdough is great for this; focus on pinching, rolling, squeezing- why not give dough disco a go? You can find links for this on YouTube and make it a regular activity.

Literacy: Share storybooks together, developing a love of listening to and joining in with familiar stories. Talk about the illustrations and what is happening in the story. Ask your child to read their decodable book, or to identify known sounds in their own story books. Get your child to 'write' the shopping list (do not worry about incorrect spellings or letter formation – this is all about 'mark making' and sounding out words phonetically). Can they spot the 'red /tricky words' out and about or in their books: *I, to, go, no, into the, put, of, my, he, be, me, we, she, you.*

Maths: Describing what times of day things happen – morning, afternoon, evening. Recall of pairs of numbers that make 5 (1+4, 2+3, 5+0).

Understanding the World/Expressive Arts and Design: Encourage your children to make more complex 'small worlds' using blocks and other construction toys, such as a city with different buildings and a park. Can they build homes for wildlife? (bug hotels, bird nests...) Maybe they can reuse some old bottles to create flowerpots or bird feeders.

Please try to encourage your child to read their book every day, or spend time sharing and reading their own story books.

Please make sure the books are kept in the reading folder and brought into school every day. We read on Wednesday and Thursday. Thank you.

Mathematics	Literacy (Reading and Writing)	Communication and Language (C&L)	Personal, Social and Emotional (PSED)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quick recall of number bonds for 5 Practical addition and subtraction – and writing the calculations Continue quick recall of 1 more / 1 less with numbers to 10 (then 20) 2 more/2 less Handwriting to develop correct number formation Compare size/mass/capacity Exploring patterns Halving and doubling of objects and amounts Properties of 3D shapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparing different story versions and discussion of similarities and differences. To be able to talk about likes and dislikes and to give reasons for choices Handwriting sessions to focus on correct letter formation – focusing on areas of need <i>(Extra practice may be sent home)</i> To begin to write simple sentences and longer where appropriate To continue to read and write 'tricky words' with growing independence Demonstrating our understanding when talking with others about what we have read. Focus on correct letter formation and position of letters on the line. Whole class focus on Set 2 sounds – Digraphs <i>(Recap of Set 1 where needed and Learning Set 3 where appropriate)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following multi-step instructions in routines Developing listening skills and phonological awareness To continue to work on asking and answering questions using full sentences Engaging in story times To understand body language and facial features also communicate feelings 	<p>New Year, new goals!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having the confidence to achieve your goals I can vs I can't Respectful relationships Physical and Online Safety
Expressive Arts and Design (Inc Music and Drama) (EAD)	Understanding the World (UTW)	PE and Physical Development (PD)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings Develop DT skills of joining paper in a variety of ways Using clay to model and make objects and creatures Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody Create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills Develop storylines in their pretend play Listen to and explore music from around the world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about how their environments have changed over time (e.g weather, Seasons) To find out about different countries To learn about our place in the Solar System To know that different animals live in different habitats To think about what they can do to look after their own environment: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose To think about their impact on the planet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop confidence and movement skills using apparatus and space outdoors Develop a good pencil grip and develop letter and number formation To continue to develop water confidence during Swimming sessions Develop self-care skills, by changing for PE and Swimming lessons with more independence and confidence 	