



Dormice Class Autumn Term Newsletter

Welcome to Dormice Class! We hope you all had a relaxing summer and are ready for a very busy and exciting first term in Reception! This newsletter will give you lots of information about the coming term and all the learning that we will be doing!

Our topic is...

Marvellous Me!

PSED Personal, social and emotional development

In PSED we will be focussing on the topic 'Good to be me'. We will be talking about our likes and dislikes and thinking about our talents and what we are good at. We will be building relationships within the class and exploring what makes a good friend and thinking about how we can be good friends to each other. We will be identifying different emotions and talking about our feelings.



Communication and Language

Our focus in communication and language this term will be listening to each other's ideas and sharing our own in front of the group. We will be talking about our likes and dislikes and ways that we are similar and different to our friends. We will be talking about how we feel and why we feel that way.



Physical Development

We will be spending lots of time exploring our environment and learning to use different equipment safely. We will be focussing on making marks and patterns in different textures and doing lots of different activities to make our hands and fingers strong and ready for writing. We will be starting 'dough disco' and funky fingers sessions every day. We will also be exploring our outdoor resources and moving in different ways.



Phonics

We will be beginning our daily phonics sessions which are an exciting step on the journey to reading and writing. The children will learn four sounds each week alongside learning the skills of blending and segmenting. Details of the sounds we are learning each week will be in my weekly newsletter so that you can help them practise at home.

Phonics
ee ur ow
wh y au

Writing

This term we will be doing lots and lots of name writing practice. The children will be encouraged to write their name in different textures and using different media such as paint and collage. In addition to this children will be encouraged to make different marks and patterns and begin to form letters alongside their phonics learning. The children will be encouraged to write in their own play and give meaning to the marks they make, for example writing shopping lists in the home corner or writing labels for their models in the construction area.



Reading

During the first few weeks of this term, we will be reading and exploring lots of stories about families and starting school. We will be focussing on reading for pleasure and spending time talking about stories and talking about why we like or don't like them.

The children will start bringing home a book to share from week 2. This is a book they have chosen to share with you. Please encourage them to talk about the book and ask them lots of questions. Later in the term, the children will be allocated reading books which match our phonics scheme. These will be allocated electronically as e-books. Further information to follow in due course.



Mathematics

Our maths learning follows the 'White Rose Maths' scheme. White Rose is a mastery approach to mathematics ensuring mastery of skills at basic levels before applying these skills to larger numbers. Our maths topic this term is 'Just Like Me'. The children will be doing lots of matching and sorting using real objects. They will then be comparing size, mass and capacity through lots of exploration and investigation. Books will often be used as a starting point for introducing mathematical concepts to help the children understand them and link them to 'real life'.



Understanding the World

In this area we will start by exploring the school and finding out where different places are and who works in school to help us. We will then be thinking about ourselves, labelling the different parts of our bodies and exploring our different senses by playing lots of different games. We will be talking about our families and discussing how they are similar and different. We will also learn to use cameras to take photographs of work we are proud of.



Expressive Arts and Design

Our role play area this term will be a home corner encouraging the children to act in role as familiar characters from home and in familiar situations.

The children will have the opportunity to explore different media such as paint, collage and transient art to make different representations including their name, face and family.

We will be singing lots of popular and familiar songs and doing lots of actions to accompany these.

The children will be encouraged to explore our construction areas to build and develop their own role play and ideas.



Information and reminders

Names, names, names

Please, please make sure all items of clothing are clearly named. This will enable us to return items to you, should they go missing.

Forest School Activities

Just a reminder that the children will each need a puddle suit or alternative suitable waterproof and wellies for our forest school style lessons in the forest. These will need to stay in school until half term when they will be sent home to be washed.

Parent Workshops

I will be running a number of parent workshops this term, giving more information about different areas of the curriculum and giving ideas for supporting at home. Please look out for dates in upcoming newsletters.

Thank you for your support so far. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to one of us at any time.

Miss Payne, Mrs Panesar and Mr Banks

Family photo

We will be talking about families a lot over the next few weeks and would like to make a display of family photos. Please send in a recent family photo as soon as possible.