

# EYES NEWS

## Traditional Tales

### Dear Parent and Carers,

Happy new year and welcome back!

We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas!

Our topic this half term is all about traditional tales! Each week we will be focusing on one traditional tale; through these stories we will be learning about characters and story events and investigating materials and their functions.

### Literacy

This term we will be focusing on a traditional tale each week, they will be:

The Three Little Pigs  
The Gingerbread Man  
Little Red Riding Hood  
Jack and The Beanstalk and  
The Little Red Hen

We will be acting out these stories both in and outside the classroom, playing different character roles using props to support. Each week there will be lots of drawings of these stories and a focus on writing. We will be applying our phonics learning, writing simple captions and sentences to respond to the stories.

### Maths

Through the 'master the Curriculum Scheme', Nursery are being introduced to the numbers 3, 4 and 5. Through hands on activities the children will be learning to recognise when a group shows 3, 4 or 5 and will be practicing subitizing\* those amounts. The children will then have the opportunity to continue to practice counting and subitising with these numbers in provision. Reception will be learning about the composition of the numbers 5 - 10, looking closely at which numbers make up those amounts. The children will be practicing quick recalls of the number bonds.

### Understanding the World

Through the traditional tale stories, we will be exploring more about the true nature of the characters and their setting. For instance, we will be researching about wolves, trying to learn about what they are really like in the wild, where they live and what they like to eat. Through the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, we will learn about what plants need to grow. We will be growing our own beanstalks and comparing (if they grow) whose is the tallest?

When we look at the story of The Little Red Hen the children will experience making bread and learning the process of harvesting and the whole life cycle of a seed compared to that of a hen.

To support our story telling, we will create maps of where the characters went within the story. (Map work is an essential part of Understanding the World)

### Expressive Art and Design

This term we are learning about the properties of materials. Throughout the term, we will be conducting lots of experiments and tests on materials to explore their properties. For example, which material will be the strongest to build the pig's houses out of? Which material will be the most suitable to build an umbrella for the Gingerbread man to stay dry?

There will be a lot of emphasis on story telling this half term. Retelling all of the stories we are looking at through role-play and performing on stage.



### Personal, Social and emotional Development

This term we will be talking about our dreams and goals. Looking closely at our aspirations, how to achieve our goals and understanding the emotions that go with this.



Our text this half term will be  
The True Story of the Three Little Pigs  
by Jon Scieszka

### Physical Development

This half term the children will be learning how to play different types of ball games and games that will teach them how to negotiate the space and defend and attack in a game situation. Nursery have P.E on **Thursdays**. Reception have P.E on **Thursdays and Fridays**. Please make sure that your child comes into school wearing their P.E kit or black/white trainers.

### Reading- Reception Children

We will hear your child read every week within class through 1:1 reading with the TA or Teacher. Your child should now have a reading log book to take home for you to fill in when they have read at home. We ask that children read every night as we recognise the importance of reading. We will be changing your child's reading book every Friday so please bring your book bag in school.

### Phonics

## PHONICS

We have been so pleased with the progress of all the children's phonics skills. Nursery will now be learning Phase 2 phonics which is the first of the initial sounds: c, a, t, s. Reception will all now be on Phase 3 phonics which is beginning to learn the digraph sounds: ch, sh, ai.

\*Subitizing means the ability to recognise the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them.

Thank you for all of your support, if you have any questions, please ask...

Mrs Kolstein, and Miss May