

Amazing Animals

Prime Areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum

Communication and Language

When sharing our work and telling our friends about our experiences we will continue to develop our ability to speak clearly and to show awareness of the listener in small and large groups.



At home: Prepare a show and tell. Practise by presenting it to members of your family.

Physical Development



In PE we will be focusing on Cognitive Skills. Showing that we can understand and follow simple rules. Naming some things we are good at. We will begin to order instructions, movements and skills. With help, we will recognise similarities and differences in performance and explain why someone is working or performing well. With Mrs Larthe we will be exploring 'Dynamic balance.' With Mrs Williams we will be exploring 'static balance.' We will be continuing to develop our handwriting by learning to make our letters consistent in size.



At home: Learn to do something new: ride your bike without stabilisers, skipping with a rope, swimming etc and share your achievement on a 'Tapestry.'

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Jigsaw PSHE – We will be thinking & learning about relationships. We will be thinking about ways to solve friendship problems, ways to help others feel part of a group, showing respect for others, how to help ourselves & others when upset, know & show what makes a good relationship.

At home: Play turn-taking games (especially maths games) please share on a 'Tapestry.'

Specific Areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum

Literacy

We will continue to look at a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts. We will continue to create our own story maps, innovating familiar stories and begin to learn how to write our own stories.

Phonics; we will secure the recognition of digraphs (this is where 2 letters make 1 sound, such as 'ai' in mail.) We've learnt and use these in our reading and writing. We will also learn to read the Reception sight words we need to learn.



Children will use their reading books and teacher-led guided reading sessions to ask and answer questions about the structure of a story, such as *when, why, who & how*.

At home: We are really focusing on the diagraphs we have already learnt. Please help support this by using the letter cards which we will provide to play games. Can you make an alphabet poster / book to help you learn the names?

Maths

The children will learn to form numerals correctly and will continue to solve practical problems including those involving addition & subtraction.

We will be learning about halving and doubling.

We will be exploring pattern and shape.

In our 'Pet Shop' we will continue to learn about coins and money.



At home: What interesting patterns can you find at home? Maybe you could make a photo book to share in class. Go on a shape walk around your home and garden what interesting shapes can you see? Can you draw and label some of them?

Understanding the World

We will learn about the different environments that animals live in. We will prepare a well-planned, researched and safe home for our new class pet.

RE – What can we learn from stories? We listen to stories from different religions and talk about the morals of the stories.

We will be learning to log on to the computers in the ICT suite ready for our Year 1 learning. We will use a range of programmes to develop our mouse control.



We will use the 'light box' to explore colour and patterns.

At home: Prepare a show and tell linked to the theme 'Pets.'

Expressive Art & Design Creative Development

We will be encouraged to use musical instruments to make music in our play, responding with dance and singing.



We will look at the colours and patterns of different animals, using different media to recreate these.

At home: Can you be an artist and paint a picture of your favourite animal?

Dear Chestnut Parents

The children had a great term 4 and we all thoroughly enjoyed the Julia Donaldson topic. We had lots of fun whilst learning so much! Thank you for all the fantastic Family Trees, we really enjoyed each and every one and it was lovely to hear the children talking about their families.

Throughout this year Mrs Hutchings and I have been working really hard to develop our outdoor learning area. This is something we will continue to do in terms 5 & 6. As part of this and following on from the success of our school dogs & chickens we are looking to introduce a Chestnut Class pet (shhhh the children don't know yet.) Our Pet topic will enable the children to be part of getting prepared to welcome a new pet to the Flax family.

From Mrs Williams

Reading & keywords

Please remember to write in your child's Reading Record when you have heard them read at home: your feedback is very valuable. We would like the children to be reading at least 4 times a week at home, regular reading at home will really help your child's progress. You don't need to write a comment every time just dating and signing is fine.

Tapestry

Please remember to look at Tapestry on a regular basis; we are working hard to upload lots of observations. We are now also making suggestions for next steps in learning and comments on how you may help at home. You can also upload observations, photos & videos. Some parents have been doing this regularly and the children love sharing them with their friends in class.

Show and Tell Our theme is - 'Pets'

Help your child to prepare a 'Pet Show & Tell.' It can be about a pet you have at home or maybe a pet that lives with someone else in the family, or you may also choose to create a pretend pet. Tell us all about the pet, how to look after it, things it needs to live, what it eats, where it sleep, how does it exercise etc.

They might like to make a poster, a short video, a booklet, share photographs, a model pet etc.

Grown -Ups

Do you, or does anyone you know have a job working with animals. We would love to have some visitors linked to our topic to tell us about their jobs. Please let Mrs Williams know if you can help.

Warmer Weather

Hopefully the warm weather will arrive! Our outdoor area is south-facing and therefore will get a lot of sunlight (we really hope☺). All children will need to have a named sun-hat which will be kept in school. If they don't have a hat, on hot days we will have to limit the time they spend outside. Please apply plenty of sun cream before your child comes to school as we are not able to put it on for them - thanks.

Plastic 2 or 4 pint milk carton

Please can every child bring in a named plastic 2 or 4 pint milk carton, (please wash out thoroughly - thanks). We look forward to showing you our amazing creations.

Bessie Bear

Don't forget to write Bessie a letter inviting her to your house - she would like to go home with everyone!

Show and Tell Dates

Monday 23rd April	Henry
Tuesday 24th April	Isabella & Cameron
Wednesday 25th April	Iwan
Thursday 26th April	Jack
Friday 27th April	Jacob
Monday 30th April	Joe
Tuesday 1st May	Leo & Etha
Wednesday 2nd May	Lilliana
Thursday 3rd May	Louis & Fraiser
Friday 4th May	Olivia G-C
Monday 7th May	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 8th May	Olivia W
Wednesday 9th May	Reuben & Eva
Thursday 10th May	Rudy
Friday 11th May	Sam T
Monday 14th May	Arabella
Tuesday 15th May	Sam W & Elsa
Wednesday 16th May	Sebastian
Thursday 17th May	Tiggy
Friday 18th May	William