26th September 2016

Reception Curriculum

Welcome to Reception's first curriculum update. It has been wonderful to see how well the children have settled into their busy life at Ladybridge. They have done very well and are really getting into the swing of our daily routine in Reception. The children are becoming more confident by the day and are beginning to make good friendships, which is lovely to see.
We know you will be interested in a summary of the activities your child will be undertaking during this term. Our weekly outline of work will be displayed on our notice-board, positioned outside on the wall where you enter the outdoor area. This information will also be uploaded on to the school's website. Your child will soon be issued with a password.
Activities will always be differentiated according to your child's strengths and needs and, as we know, children progress at their own pace. Some of the activities may also be varied to incorporate your children's interests, ideas and needs.

Topics

Our topic this half-term is **'All About Me'**. Within this we are focusing on the themes:

- Birthdays
- What do I look like? (Sense of sight) My body (Sense of touch)
- My family (Sense of hearing)
- My favourite foods/ healthy bodies (Sense of taste and smell)
- Diwali/Autumn

Our topic next half-term (after October half-term) will be **'Colour and Light'**. Within this topic we will focus on the themes:

- Colours all around us
- Different sources of light
- What happens when we mix colours together?
- What colours do we see in Winter?
- Christmas

Through both of these topics all areas of the Early Years Curriculum will be covered. This includes both the prime and specific areas.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:	Making Relationships Self-Confidence and Self-Awareness Managing Feelings and Behaviour
Physical Development:	Moving and Handling Health and Self-Care
Communication and Language:	Listening and Attention Understanding Speaking
Understanding the World:	People and Communities The World Technology
Expressive Arts and Design:	Exploring and Using Media and Materials Being Imaginative

The majority of our Mathematic and Literacy focused activities will also be based around the current theme. However, we will be focusing on specific objectives in Mathematics and Literacy over the term.

Mathematics: Numbers and Shape, Space and Measure

- Recognising and writing numerals 0 to 10 and beyond.
- Counting reliably up to 20 objects and then beyond (touching the objects as we count).
- Ordering numbers to 10 and then beyond.
- Counting reliably in other contexts, such as clapping, hopping.
- Matching sets of objects to numerals that represent the number of objects.
- Finding the total number of items in two groups by counting all of them.
- Finding one more or one less from a group of up to five objects, then ten objects.
- Finding one more or one less than a number from 1 to 10.
- Sorting objects by colour, size, weight, shape etc.
- Using positional language , such as '*behind*' or '*next to*'.
- Ordering two or three items by length or height.
- Ordering two items by weight or capacity.
- Recognising and recreating simple patterns (using colours, shapes, objects).
- Identifying 2D- flat (circle, square, triangle, rectangle) and 3D- solid (cube, cuboid, sphere, pyramid, cone, cylinder) shapes.

Literacy: Reading and Writing

- Identifying words that rhyme in stories, songs and poems and attempting to continue a rhyming string.
- Listening to stories with increasing attention and retelling them in the correct sequence.
- Understanding how stories are structured, such as main character, settings, sequence of events, and openings.
- Learning the order of the alphabet.

The children will now start to develop their **phonic skills** by learning all of the sounds of the letters of the alphabet. They will begin **blending** these letter sounds to read simple words. The children will also practise **hearing and saying** sounds in words in the order in which they occur. They will be developing their **handwriting skills**, ensuring that the formation of all letters is accurate. Your child will also be concentrating on recognising their **name** and writing it independently. Please emphasise to your child that English print is read from **left to right** and **top to bottom**.

Your child will receive their first reading book this week. Please continue to share your own story books as well as your child's school reading book.

You may also want to discuss our themes at home with your child: for example, different family members talking about relatives and the history and background of your family: foods that you and your family like/dislike and how to keep your body healthy: colours in Autumn: colours around your house/community: experimenting mixing colours: different sources of light around your home/community.

It would also be wonderful if you could send in a special family photograph (this may include pets) for our 'Family Tree' display (We have had only a couple of children bring a photo in so far!) Please write your child's name on the back of the photos so that we can return them to you. We will photocopy the photograph for our display and return the original to you.

Thank you for all your support and involvement. We know it makes such a difference to your child's progress.