



The Giles Nursery and Infants' School

Summer Term 2024 Newsletter

Foundation Stage Reception Barn Owls, Snowy Owls, and Tawny Owls



The topics this term are Life Cycles linked to the traditional tale of **'The Little Red Hen'** and **'Growing.'** Throughout the term the children will be participating in a range of very exciting and inspiring range of activities throughout the term.



Communication and Language



During the term, the children will be listening to various versions of 'The Little Red Hen', making comparisons and identifying the differences between the stories read. They will be retelling the traditional tale of 'The Little Red Hen' using Makaton signs, which supports them in retelling this story in their own words.

The children will continue to develop their imaginative storytelling in the different role-play areas in Reception. They will sequence story cards, use puppets, props, and musical instruments to act out the story. The children will be interviewing the story characters through 'hot seating' to find out what part they played in the story, how a character felt and writing sentences focusing on how a sentence is structured. They will continue to discover and use new adjectives used in stories in a curriculum rich in language.

During daily sessions of phonics, the children will continue to develop their reading, spelling, and forming of letters correctly. They will be practising segmenting and blending words, recognising common exception words, and using their phonic knowledge to read decodable sentences. Phonic homework this term will be an opportunity for the children to prepare themselves for Year 1 by completing the weekly 'Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check' sheets of high frequency/common exception words from phonic phases 2 and 3.

Physical Development

Throughout the term, the children will continue to develop their large and fine motor skills. In PE, they will be participating in team games, creating a sequence of movements linked to the story of 'The Little Red Hen' and practising for Sports Day. They will have opportunities to use large and small apparatus to develop their use of space, balance, and coordination.

The children will continue to learn how to be safe when transporting equipment and continue to develop their self-help skills. For the development of their fine motor skills, they will be mark-making, tracing handwriting patterns and forming letter shapes. They will practise



cutting and threading and explore a variety of small construction materials to further develop their fine motor skills. They will be kneading and manipulating dough when making bread rolls.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Our Jigsaw theme this half term is '**Relationships.**' During circle time activities the children will be learning about understanding and managing their feelings, understanding the feelings of others, and making the right choices.

After the half-term holiday, the theme is '**Changes.**' The children will be discussing how they have changed since they were a baby and preparing themselves for the changes ahead in readiness for their transition into Year 1.



Literacy



Reading: The children will read individually twice a week and have many other opportunities for reading throughout the week. They will be reading different versions of 'The Little Red Hen' and making comparisons between the different versions. The children will be introduced to alliteration and will continue to develop their knowledge of rhyming words and hearing rhyme in poems and stories. During daily phonic sessions, the children will be participating in phonic activities and reading sentences to develop their reading skills. Through daily flashcards they will continue to recognise and read a range of decodable and common exception words which are found in their reading books.



Writing: Throughout Reception there are many opportunities for the children to write alliterative sentences, simple stories, facts, recipes, and shopping lists. The children will be continuing to practise forming lower case letters correctly and observe writing modelled by adults. They will be writing simple sentences focusing on how a sentence is structured using a capital letter and punctuation. The children will be looking at how stories begin and identifying story settings, all of which will inspire the children to write their own stories. They will be writing a recipe to make bread rolls and creating a shopping list of the ingredients needed to make bread.

Handwriting practice will continue daily throughout the week for the children with a focus this term on the formation of numbers. Homework during the term will be practising spelling high frequency/common exception words covered in phonic phases 2 and 3, using the method of 'Look, Cover, Write, Check' with a challenge at the end to help the children's brains grow.

Mathematics



In mathematics the children will begin to focus on teen numbers and counting beyond 20. They will be adding to an amount and counting on from a given number. The children will be selecting shapes for a purpose and rotating and manipulating these shapes. They will be investigating shape arrangements and finding shapes within shapes. The children will be sharing and grouping objects and numbers and focusing on patterns. They will be using positional language and exploring mapping, creating maps linked to story situations.

Understanding the World

The children will be talking about what makes a place special, finding out about a religious place and looking at special people in the family, school and in the community. They will be discussing why their Dad, Grandad or Uncle is special to them, in celebration of Father's Day. The children will be discovering why people around the world celebrate Eid.

They will be looking at aerial views of the school and surrounding area and creating a simple map with symbols showing the journey of the Little Red Hen. The children will be looking at the history of farming and why it was important to work together in a community to harvest the crops.



They will be observing chicks hatching from eggs and will be looking at the life cycle of a chick. The children will be making bread rolls, looking at the effect of heat on the slice of bread using a toaster and tasting bread from different European countries. They will be weighing ingredients to make a loaf of bread using a bread maker. The children will be using iPads to draw a haystack in the style of the artist Claude Monet.

Expressive Arts and Design



The children will be learning a range of songs, action songs and rhymes linked to 'The Little Red Hen'. They will be using musical instruments to accompany the songs and using instruments to help them to retell the story of 'The Little Red Hen'. The children will continue to listen to different genres of music and learn facts about a variety of musicians. They will have opportunities to use a variety of materials and techniques to create collage hens, to use 2D and 3D shapes to create a windmill and to manipulate clay to create a hen pendant. The children will be looking at artwork related to Claude Monet and Paul Klee and creating artwork in the style of the artists using different media, materials, and iPads. The children will experience a variety of role-play areas, such as a farmhouse, bakery, and cafe in the classroom and outside in the different garden areas of Reception.

For more information related to this term's topic please visit the school's website:

www.gilesnurseryandinfants.co.uk.

We hope you find this newsletter helpful and informative for your child's learning this term. If you have any items relating to our topic that we could use, display, or share with the children please let us know!

If you wish to ask any questions, please feel welcome to speak to the Foundation Stage staff at the end of the day.

Please, however, inform staff of important information at the start of the day.

Reminders

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL ITEMS OF SCHOOL UNIFORM, COATS, PLIMSOLLS, BOOK BAG, SHOE BAG AND PE KIT ARE CLEARLY NAMED.

Please would you make sure your child brings in a named water bottle.

NO FRUIT OR FLAVOURED DRINKS AS THIS ATTRACTS THE ANTS!

With the warmer weather approaching, please ensure your child wears a named sunhat to school and sun cream is applied to their skin before coming to school.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Mrs L Dacombe

Class Teacher and Foundation Stage Leader

Mrs D Clark and Miss A Busby

Class Teachers

Miss R Freestone, Miss S Ward, and Miss K Beattie

Early Years Practitioners

Mr Pullin

Sports Apprentice