

Reception
Spring 2
2024

Walkley Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

'Enjoyment, Achievement and Learning for life...'



Topic: Spring into life

The Big Picture

This half term, the children will start learning about how Spring is the season that brings new life. As we leave Winter behind the children will observe and explore the changes in our local environment including; how many animals awaken from hibernation and spring bulbs start to grow. We will teach children how to care for animals and where food comes from in our farm visit. During our time in the forest, we will have some unusual pre-historic encounters that will be a surprise for us all. Finally, we will have fun making Easter bonnets, cards and baskets as we learn all about the Easter Story.

Key Information and Dates

African Drumming Workshop

Monday 19th February

Walkley World Book Day

Thursday 7th March

Farm Visit: We are excited to have 'Ian's mobile farm' coming to our school field including a milking experience and many farm animals.
Tuesday 12th March Cost: £5.20

Red Nose Day: Friday 15th March

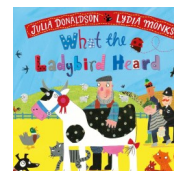
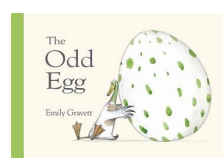
Parent Consultation evenings: A link will be sent out nearer the time for you to book your time slot.
Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th March

Forest School Week: Please provide an extra pair of waterproof boots / wellies to stay at school for the week, plus a waterproof coat. Monday 25th— Thursday 28th March

Last day before the Easter Holidays:
Thursday 28th March.

Communication and language

Class Texts:



Literacy Focus

In Drawing Club, we will be creating our own stories using the characters from the original stories above. Children will be encouraged to write secret codes and describe what their characters are doing. Children will be encouraged to write captions using finger spaces, tricky red words and words using the Set 1 and 2 RWI sounds.

Home Learning

Your child will continue to bring home a library book which is a picture book they have chosen to read with you at home. Please ensure it is in their book bag every Friday so they can change it in school. They will also have a reading book which is matched to their reading ability and RWI group. Please comment on their reading in their Reading Record each time they read with you at home. In addition, the home learning weekly tasks will be sent via Tapestry.

Maths

Mastering Number	We will be focusing on numbers to 10, including all the different ways to make numbers 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. When counting, the children will learn how to count out a set of objects from a larger group, remembering the 'stopping' number and knowing that this number represents how many are in the group. We will also practice orally counting forwards and backwards to 20 and beyond, while encouraging children to spot the word pattern in most number names. Using Numicon, we will be investigating which numbers are odd or even. The children will look for patterns within the numbers, noticing what happens when we double numbers and understanding that the number system increases by 1 each time.
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Understanding the World

Past and Present	When the children visit Forest School, we will be going fossil hunting. We will learn about what the job of a paleontologist entails and look for our very own dinosaur bones. We will learn about the work of 'Mary Anning' who was one of the greatest fossil hunters to have ever lived!
People, Culture and Communities	To develop our geographical knowledge, we will make simple maps of Forest School, marking where they found their fossils. The children will also draw their own maps, inspired by the story, 'What the ladybird heard'.
The Natural World	As the seasons change, we will encourage children to notice and describe the signs of Spring. We will be naming, identifying and classifying minibeasts while learning how to take care of them by building a minibeast hotel, inspired by the Bog Baby story. Linking with the farm visit, we will also think about where our food comes by making fresh milkshakes and our own butter!

Physical Development

In our games unit, children will practise and further develop their fundamental movement skills through the topic of 'around the world'. Children will learn and develop these skills such as; throwing, catching and striking a ball by playing a variety of games. They will also learn how to work as a team, take turns, keep the score, play against an opponent and play by the rules.

Personal, social, emotional development

This half term we will be thinking about what it means to be 'honest' looking at traditional fables such as, 'The boy who cried wolf'.

We will also think about what it means to be 'resilient' and not give up. We will talk about how it is OK to make mistakes and that we learn from our mistakes.

Expressive art and design

In Art, we will be creating 3D sculptures of; minibeasts, fossils and Bog Babies using a variety of materials and small parts including; clay, playdough and junk modelling

In Music, our topic is called 'Our World' The children will listen to, watch and talk about music and dance, expressing their feelings and response. We will find the pulse of a song and find ways to show this to others. We will explore high and low pitch using voices and musical instruments.

Religious Education

The children will start learning about how Spring is the season that brings new life. This will lead into learning about how easter eggs symbolise new life. The children will learn about the Easter Story and what that means for Christians.