



"Learning Together, Learning For Life"

Jackson's Lane,
Reed,
Royston,
Herts SG8 8AB
Tel: 01763 848304
admin@reed.herts.sch.uk

The Early Years Curriculum Letter 1 Spring Term 2020

Early Years Teacher: Mrs Tansley

Early Years Learning Support Assistant: Mrs Chisnall

Welcome back to the new term. It was lovely to hear all about the things the children got up to during the Christmas break and to see their smiling faces during the Cinderella Panto.

Our aim is to make your child's learning experience exciting and enjoyable through delivering a creative and stimulating curriculum based on the skills highlighted in the Early Years Framework. Each week the children will have opportunities to experience all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum: Physical Development, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, Mathematics, Expressive Arts and Design, Literacy and Understanding the World. This will be through a mixture of adult led and child-initiated activities. The children will have frequent opportunities to initiate their own learning during independent time. The adults will work to extend this learning through supporting play, using children's ideas to plan for future provision and enabling children to become independent learners with the ability to access resources and develop and explore their own ideas.

When possible or appropriate, learning will be linked to a theme or topic and the children's own interests. Our topics for the beginning of this term will be: **Dragons and The Chinese New Year**

Communication and Literacy

The children will listen to oral stories and read and retell stories from books about dragons. They will respond in various ways to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings and taking part in a wide range of activities. The children will learn about the stories and traditions of The Chinese New Year and how Chinese families celebrate the New Year. They will sing and learn poems and songs about dragons and the Chinese New Year.

Literacy

The children will take part in an adult led phonics session daily, independent of our topic work. They will use their phonics to read words, labels, captions and simple sentences about dragons and to write sentences and captions using descriptive language and new vocabulary.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will take part in small world activities and role play and will learn and perform songs and rhymes with actions. During role play sessions they will take on the roles of dragons and dragon hunters, customers and staff in restaurants. The children will develop their expressive and constructional skills in a range of activities, for example, building junk models of dragons and dragon machines, making salt dough claw pendants, book making, painting pictures of dragons and making maps.

Understanding of the World

The children will discuss New Year festivals and compare Chinese traditions and customs with their own experiences. They will use ICT to produce pictures and take digital photos.

Mathematics

During practical activities, role play and discussions the children will begin to use everyday language related to money and reinforce number recognition and counting. There will also be opportunities for them to use locational and positional language while searching for hidden dragons.

Adult led weekly activities will focus on

- Addition and Subtraction 0-5 and number bonds to 5. We will be exploring how numbers can be made by combining smaller numbers, using real life objects and familiar contexts. The children will be encouraged to record their work in a variety of ways.
- Number and Place Value 0-10 Counting to 10 and comparing numbers up to 10. The children will continue to apply their counting skills forwards and backwards. They will represent numbers in different ways and count out required numbers of objects from a larger group.
- Spatial Awareness The children will hear and begin to use positional language to describe how items are positioned in relation to other items.

Physical Development

The children will experiment with different ways of moving and perform dragons' actions. They will participate in lion and dragon dances and move like animals from the Chinese zodiac.

In addition to the above the children will have an hour session every Tuesday with Mr S. This half term the focus will be Gymnastics. They will be working with a partner on 'copycat /reflection' activities, balancing, rolling and jumping.

Reminders

All children require a water bottle in school. Water bottles can be purchased from the school office or you may supply your own.

Please ensure Book Bags are in school every day with their reading record, reading book and home school communication book inside. Please check your child's bag and take out any letters or pictures every night.

Hair must be tied back neatly.

Please ensure full PE kit is in school at all times, including trainers or plimsolls and tracksuit/jogging bottoms/sweatshirt/fleece/hoody for outdoors. Please ensure you name all items of clothing (including footwear, hats, scarfs and gloves) clearly.

Outdoor play Now that the weather is cold and wet, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately. Please provide your child with a suitable coat, hat and gloves for outdoor play, we will be going outside in most weather conditions. Some wellingtons to be kept in school would also be helpful.

Home Learning

All Early Years children will have a library book to take home to share each week. This term it will be changed on a Monday. Please comment on your child's reading at home in the reading record.

Reception will also have a reading book and Phonics (letters and sounds) activities weekly. Please comment on your child's reading in their record book and read with your child every day.

Occasionally other tasks will be sent home but they will have instructions with them.

If you ever have any worries, concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact us using the Home School Communication Book (please remember to check this daily) or if you feel what you need to say or ask would be more appropriate in an email, you may email me on h.tansley@reed.herts.sch.uk Please be aware that emails will be checked/answered during working hours and not during the weekends.

Thank you for your continued support. Mrs Tansley and The Early Years Team.