



Gayhurst Community School

Class Information for Parents / Carers

Date: 27.03.24

Teacher: Kashmir

Class: RK

We will be learning about **Growth** and **All around the world** in the **Early Years Foundation Stage** for **Summer Term**. Children learn best when stimulated by real life experiences. There are several key skills we will be developing this term in **Reception**. Daily **phonics** groups will support reading across the curriculum. Some children may be taught phonics by a different adult in a different space this term. Please speak to your child about this. We will be using the following key texts; The Tiny Seed, Bad Tempered Ladybird, Lifecycle of a Sunflower, The Colour of Home and Koala Lou.

Outdoor Learning helps to enhance these experiences. We will be using our Outdoor Area and London Fields for specific adult led activities, so make sure your child is dressed for all weathers.

Communication and Language

We are learning to: Use language and vocabulary which reflects the breadth of your child's experiences. Children will be encouraged to hold conversation and engage in back-and-forth exchanges with their adults and peers. We will hold small group and whole class discussions so children can listen and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions. Through the mini topics and stories we will be encouraging children to ask about why things happen and how things work. Children will be learning to use vocabulary linked to the topic 'All Around the World!' including map, atlas, names of countries and some capital cities and landmarks, e.g, the Eiffel tower. We are always keen to have children connect their ideas and experiences through language as this demonstrates understanding.

You can help your child at home by:

Talking to your child about what they are doing when they are sharing an activity with you. Talk about your favourite place. Plant some bulbs and watch them grow! Talk about shapes, colours and size. Have a competition and have fun talking together!

Physical Development

We are learning to: throw and catch different sized balls. Children will negotiate space and obstacles safely, both inside and outside. They will demonstrate strength, balance and coordination when playing. They will move energetically outside by running, jumping and skipping independently. Children will continue develop fine motor skills, using simple tools to effect changes to materials. We will continue to develop control when forming our letters and numbers, including capital letters. Children will hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip when holding pens or pencils. We will continue to use malleable materials and construction materials with increasing control. Children will use beads, punched holes and Binca fabric to thread and sew.

You can help at home by:

Encouraging your child to be as independent as possible when dressing and undressing. Give them lots of praise when they are successful. Make it into a game or competition. It will then be something they look forward to doing each day. Give them lots of tools to encourage fine motor development, Lego and Play dough are always a good resource.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We are learning to: talk about the zones of regulation when they are feeling upset/angry and begin to regulate their behaviour, with adult support and independently. We will introduce new activities to support children's confidence and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge. Children will continue to learn to accept boundaries and understand expectations for behaviour indoors and outside, using our Stay On Green system.

As always, we will be encouraging children play cooperatively in groups and accepting the needs of other children they are playing with. We will be encouraging children to be confident when speaking about their own wants, needs, opinions and interests. Children will be asked to explain their own knowledge and understanding.

You can help at home by:

Talking to your child about their feelings. Talk to your child about what they like and what they know. Support their interests with trips and shared dialogue. Explain that a child must ask for adult support if another child has taken something of theirs. Give them the correct language to use when they want to ask for something back. Ask our team about the Stay On Green procedure and the Zones of Regulation we use in Reception to reinforce positive behaviour choices.

In **Literacy** we are learning to: Recognise and use rhyme in daily conversation. We will read simple words and sentences everyday, using phonics knowledge to blend sounds. We will be writing in meaningful contexts, making writing fun. Children will learn to use a capital letter at the beginning of a sentence and a full stop at the end. They will use their knowledge of phonics to spell words, as well as using the reception high frequency words they have learnt. Children will be using finger spaces between words. They will be encouraged to read what they have written to check it makes sense.

You can help your child at home by: Reading as frequently as possible with your child, discussing the characters and key events. See what they remember. Understanding is so important. Question your child about their pictures, use open questions like 'I wonder what...' to encourage talk. Model writing in the home, for example writing a shopping list with your child, or writing letters or cards to send to friends and family.

In **Mathematics** we are learning to: see how many ways we can make a given number, automatically recall the number bonds to 10 fluently and do simple addition and subtraction. We will be counting beyond 20 and talking about the patterns we see. In role play the children will compare quantities and talk about where one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as another quantity. Children will play games to learn to recognise quantities without counting up to 5 objects.

You can help your child at home by: Using everyday objects to add and subtract together. See how many ways you can make 10 using everyday objects at home or when you are out and about.

In **Understanding the World** we are learning to: talk about the past, knowing that the past is any time before the current day. Children will grow plants and know that they take time to grow. Children will talk about objects from the past and how things are the same or different. We will learn more about climate change and what we need to do to help protect our planet. We will look at a globe and talk about the blue representing the sea and the green representing the land. Children will learn about plants; how to care for them, their life cycle and to label parts of a plant, e.g 'stem' 'leaf'. Through stories children will recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate different times in different ways

You can help your child at home by: Reading stories from a wide range of world communities. Talk with them about what they are doing. Talk about your special celebrations and traditions.

In **Expressive Arts and Design** we are learning to: sing nursery rhymes and songs. Children will perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and move in time with the music they hear. They will be exploring using watercolours and making different shades of the same colour. They will safely use and explore lots of materials, tools and techniques, colour, design, texture and choose what to use independently.

You can help your child at home by: Allowing your child to create models with junk materials like old boxes, cartons and paper. They could use glue, scissors, card and felt tip colours. Sing your favourite songs and dance together to the beat of favourite music.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Book Bags

All children have a plastic zip book bag which is changed every **Friday**. Inside their book bag will be 2 books—a phonics book for them to read to you and a book for you to read to them for enjoyment. They will also get a piece of phonics homework with the sound/s they have been learning that week. Please return the books in good condition as we are teaching children how to treat books respectfully.

A message from your child's teacher:

We are really excited about the Summer Term and looking forward to all the activities we have planned. The children continue to make rapid progress in all areas, which is wonderful to see. They are so confident now, and continue to develop independence with their learning.

PE is on Tuesday and Friday for Summer term so please have shorts/leggings and T-shirts available.

Please feel free to see us or another member of the team at the end of the day if you wish to discuss anything to do with your child.

Many thanks,

Kashmir and Maxine.