

Fine motor:

Name writing

Children will find and trace their names, following the arrows to ensure they start their letters in the correct place and have the correct formation.

We will focus on copying lines and circles.

Physical development

In play:

In play the children will improve their fine motor skills. They will do this whilst using construction, doll dressing, IT and a range of other activities that will be out in provision.



Self care:

Encourage your children to dress themselves – putting on and removing their own coat, shoes and jumpers. Eating – using cutlery, opening lunch boxes and food bags. Hygiene – cleaning teeth, toileting, washing and drying hands.



AT HOME: Can you follow some instructions to make some playdoh to play with at home?

Pencil grips- We will be teaching the children to write using a tripod grip- please encourage this at home.

Gross motor:

Children use their gross motor skills to perform every day functions, such as walking and running, playground skills and sporting skills. During PE sessions on a Tuesday, we will practise the skills of running, skipping, hopping and jumping, throwing and catching and controlling a ball. Children will learn how to move safely around others, and to change direction to avoid others.



Phonics

We use a phonics scheme called 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds'. The big focus is to help the children to be able to read CVC words by Christmas. We will teach the children key skills over the Autumn term to help them to achieve this.

Oral blending

Blending in phonics is combining broken up sounds to make a word.

For example, you hear 'p-i-g' and you merge these sounds together to make the single word 'pig'. It is a key skill of early reading.

AT HOME: Practice asking your children if they would like something: for example- Would you like the M-J-L-K?

Literacy- Reading and writing

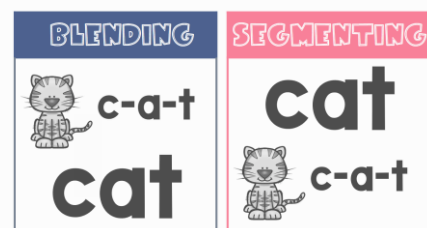
Sounds

We will be learning these sounds (phonemes) for each of the letter of the alphabet, linking each sound to its letter (grapheme). We will also be learning the capital letter than corresponds with the sound. This will be supported by learning a handwriting rhyme for each letter to help with letter formation.



Segmenting

This is the process of breaking down the words into separate sounds and syllables. For example ro-bot.



Name

We will learn how to read and write our names.

Rhyme:

We will identify rhyming words, initial sounds and alliteration.

We will begin to read and write simple words with the sounds that we learn. For example sat, at, pin, pip, pan, sad, mat. The children will do this on whiteboards on the carpet, during phonics and literacy sessions and have opportunities during choosing time. We will record a piece of literacy work each week, in children's individual exercise books.



AT HOME: These are the sounds and tricky words that we will be learning this half term. Please practice at home.

Tricky words: These are words that you cannot sound out, they have a tricky part- for example: said. The tricky part is the 'ai' making the 'e' sound.

Subitising:

We will subitise amounts to 3. We will follow NCETM's Mastering Numbers.



Mathematics

A number a week 0-4:

From week 3 we will start focusing on a number a week- the value of the number, counting within the number, representations of the number, formation of the number and the shape and money correspondence. For example 3- 3p, 1p+2p and a circle and triangle.



AT HOME: Practice counting and looking for numbers in the world around them.

Comparing quantities:

We will be looking at quantities asking questions such as; what has more and what has less? Do you know how many more? We will find 1 more and 1 less than a number to 3.



Size, Mass and Capacity:

We will look at, measure and compare the size and weight of objects. We will use a balance and non-standard units. We will compare capacity and use associated vocabulary.

Sorting:

The children will practice sorting- in size, colour, same/different, shapes, which one doesn't belong.



Patterns:

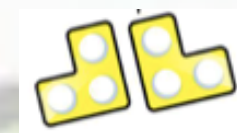
We will explore patterns and concepts behind patterns. We will make AB patterns.

Odd one out

We will look at what the similarities are and what the odd one out might be.

Matching:

The children will explore matching- can you find my other half? Is it the same?



Role play

The children will be able to perform and role play in a range of different spaces. Including; a home corner and a Birthday party.



Expressive Arts and Design

Art The children will complete a painted self portrait, that is displayed in their classroom. A school uniform will be added to their portrait. They will use a mirror and develop the skill of observation.

The children will create a Ladybird or a Butterfly for their first new classroom display. These are the class names.



Construction

The children have access to a range of constructional resources in the classroom. Including the introduction of junk modelling.

Music We will sing a range of nursery rhymes in class, as a whole, in groups and individually. We will be following a music scheme called Spark yard.

Dance We will move to music and develop an awareness of space.

AT HOME: Sing nursery rhymes.

RE At Holy Cross, we follow the Religious Education Directory. We will begin our religious studies by looking at God's Creation. Through this we will learn about God's love and care for all of us. We will learn that we are all a part of God's family and we will learn about the Sacrament of Baptism.

Knowledge and understanding of the world



The natural world:

We will begin to make predictions- what we think will happen, where we think we will find mini-beasts. We will be using our senses to explore our new school environment. We will explore and we will know some of the key features of the natural world around us. The children will learn about changing seasons – Autumn. We will observe how the leaves change colour. We will learn how animals grow and change. We will sequence the life cycle of a Ladybird. We will match animals and babies.

People and communities:

Discuss our class, our families and our school community. We will learn the name of our school and know that it is in Harlow. We explore a globe. We will know that the green is land and the blue is sea.



Past and Present:

We will explore how we have changed (my own past)

AT HOME: Talk to your children about the world around them and their place in it.

Computing:

We will use familiar technology in our play. E.g. phone, computer and camera in role play area. We will use the interactive whiteboard, and be introduced to our class 'Board Bees/Bears', where we take turns.

Extras:



*Baseline Assessments
*Mental Health Week
*Harvest Collection
*Global Achievers Week



Autumn 1 Topic Map

Fine motor:

Children will continue to write their names each day, starting their letters in the correct place and using the correct formation. They will trace, copy and independently write their names. We will encourage them to write their names on their work. Scissors: We will use scissors to make snips in paper.



Physical development

In play:

In play the children will improve their fine motor skills. They will do this through the use of construction, technology and Funky Fingers activities.



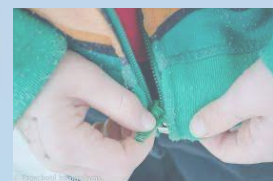
Dough Disco and Handwriting:

As well as the resources being accessible in provision times, 3 sessions each week will focus on 'Handwriting'. Through these sessions, children will learn to form the letters that we have learned, correctly. We will also copy patterns and shapes, focusing on lines and directions. To accompany handwriting, we will complete 'dough disco' activities, copying movements with playdough in order to develop our hand muscles for writing.



Self care:

Encourage your children to dress themselves, preparing for the colder weather- putting on and removing their own coat, hats, scarves and gloves, and fastening their zips. Eating- To know the healthy choice from a selection. Hygiene – Toileting independently.



AT HOME: Pencil grips- We will be teaching the children to write using a tripod grip with good control- please continue to encourage this at home.

Gross motor:

Children use their gross motor skills to perform every day functions, such as walking and running, playground skills and sporting skills. During PE sessions on a Tuesday, we will practise the skills of crawling, jumping, skipping, walking and galloping. We will learn how to stop safely and to change direction to avoid others. We will balance on and off equipment.



Phonics

We use a scheme called 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds'. The big focus is to help the children to be able to read CVC words and captions by Christmas. We will teach the children key skills over the Autumn term to help them to achieve this.

Oral blending

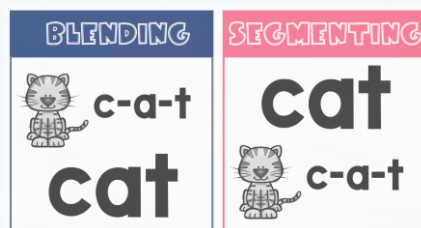
Blending in phonics is combining broken up sounds to make a word.

For example, you hear 'p-i-g' and you merge these sounds together to make the single word 'pig'. It is a key skill of early reading.

AT HOME: Support your child to read the phonics book that they bring home.

Segmenting

This is the process of breaking down the words into separate sounds and syllables. For example ro-bot.



Initial Sounds

We will write initial sounds for unknown words. We will write some letters accurately.

Sentence:

We will know how to form a sentence.

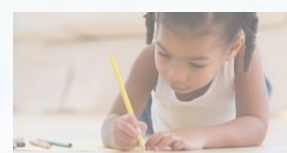
Literacy- Reading and writing

Sounds

We will be learning these sounds (phonemes) for each of the letter of the alphabet, linking each sound to its letter (grapheme).

We will also be learning the capital letter that corresponds with the sound. This will be supported by learning a handwriting rhyme for each letter to help with letter formation.

Autumn 2 Phase 2 graphemes	New tricky words
ff ll ss j v w x y z zz qu ch sh th ng nk • words with -s /s/ added at the end (hats sits) • words ending in s /z/ (his) and with -s /z/ added at the end (bags sings)	put* pull* full* as and has his her go no to into she push* he of we me be



AT HOME: These are the sounds and tricky words that we will be learning this half term. Please practice at home.

Tricky words: These are words that you cannot sound out, they have a tricky part- for example: no. The tricky part is the 'o' making the 'oh' sound.

Subitising:

We will subitise amounts to 5. We will follow NCETM's Mastering Number.



Mathematics

Number to 5

We will focus on the numbers up to 5. We will learn the value of the numbers, count on and back to the number, find and create representations of the number, form the number and match the numerals and amounts. We will order numbers to 5 and will complete early calculations



AT HOME: Practice counting and looking for numbers in the world around them.

Comparing quantities

We will be looking at quantities asking questions like: what has more and what has less?

We will know what one more and one less is than a number up to 5.



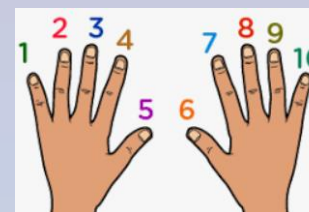
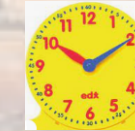
2D Shape

We will identify the 2D shapes, circles triangles, squares and rectangles. We will describe the shapes use associated vocabulary.



Positional Language

The children will understand and use positional language through activities, such as making obstacle courses.



Time:

We will measure time in simple ways, counting, using sand-timers when playing games.

Daily Routines:

We will order events in our daily routines. We will use time language such as day, night, morning and evening, and will sort activities into the time of the day that they happen.

Relationships

We will support the children to continue to form good relationships with peers and with the adults, and will ensure that they know how to be a kind friend. They will begin to know how to stand up for themselves, take steps to solve problems they may have, and to listen to one another.



PSED



Feelings

We will encourage the children to name their feelings, and to use the class emotions board regularly. Children will begin to recognise the feelings of others, through stories and real-life situations.

Rules

They will recognise that we have rules to keep us safe. Children will help to create rules for new activities.

Circle Time

This half term's topic focus is: Celebrating Difference- this will look at how we are all special, and that it is okay to be different. We are good at different things, we have different homes and different families.

AT HOME: Talk to your children about things that they are good at.

Role play

The children will be able to perform and role play in a range of different spaces. Including; a celebration, a toy shop and an Elves Workshop.



Expressive Arts and Design

Art

The children will complete a painting of a character, such as that from the Gruffalo. They will use the appropriate colours for the character.

The children will explore colour mixing, and the colours they can make using red, blue and yellow paint.

The children will create Christmas crafts and decorations, following instructions.



Stories

The children will create new stories using small world equipment, focusing on the characters from stories we have read.



Music

We will be following a music scheme called Spark Yard. We will learn to sing nursery rhymes and action songs, and we will explore rhythm and pulse.

Dance

We will confidently express ourselves in movement in front of others.

AT HOME: Clap along to the rhythm of a song.

RE At Holy Cross, we follow the Religious Education Directory. This half term we will explore the events of Christmas. We will learn about The Annunciation and the story of the Nativity. We will also explore the way that various cultures celebrate Jesus' birthday in different ways.

Knowledge and understanding of the world



The natural world:

We will explore the natural world, making use of our outdoor areas and our woodland area. We will make observations of the natural world, looking at mini-beasts, creatures, leaves, and the affects that the weather has.

We will continue to learn about the changing seasons, and will use what we know about the seasons to make a calendar for the new year. We will explore what is special about autumn.

We will identify basic materials in our environment. We will match and name the materials of plastic, metal, fabric, rubber, wood and glass, as well as materials found in the natural world, such as stone and soil. We will use our senses to describe the materials that we find.

We will begin to make simple predictions- Will a stick float?

People and communities:

We will recognise how people celebrate 'Diwali'.

We will know how and why people celebrate Christmas.

We will know that there are different countries in the world.



Past and Present:

We will create family trees, showing an understanding of our families history and how we are related. Children will recognise that people can tell them about the past.

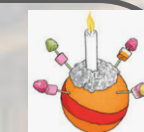
AT HOME: Talk to your children about the past- what was different?

Computing:

We will use familiar technology for a purpose.

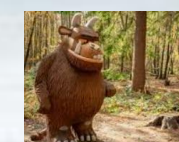
E.g. Ipad to take photos, sound buttons to record words we read, and a CD player to listen to music in the role play area.

We will continue to use the interactive whiteboard..



Extras:

- *Christingle
- *The Nativity Play
- *Christmas activities
- *Gruffalo Day



Autumn 2 Topic Map