

### **Primary Curriculum Driver: UW (Understanding the World)**

Lots of our learning will take place in the garden and outdoor areas while we learn and consolidate our knowledge of plants. Using 'Errol's Garden,' they will design and then make their own mini garden in a tyre. They will take care of their patch, observing and recording weekly changes. Children will be introduced to the life cycle of plants and animals through a range of stories, jigsaws and other sequencing activities. This learning will be consolidated by hatching and observing the life cycle of a caterpillar. Towards the end of the half term, Children will learn about the different creatures found in the garden with a focus on worms. Bug viewers and other similar resources will be readily available to support their observations. They will record where they found each type of mini beasts and begin to find out simple facts about different habitats.

### **Reception**

### **Summer 1**

### **I wonder how it grows?**



### **Secondary Curriculum Driver: PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development)**

Throughout the half term, they will be growing various seeds in different ways and record how they change and grow. They will learn what the different seeds need in order to grow into healthy plants. They will use what they learn to make links to how they can keep our bodies safe and healthy, sorting foods into different groups and taking regular daily exercise. They will be observing caterpillars as they hatch into butterflies. In doing so, they will learn how to nurture and take care of even the smallest creatures in the world. In the garden, we will work with a partner to design and then look after a mini garden in a tyre. This will help them to communicate their ideas while listening to others and further develop cooperation. In RE, they will talk about the places they feel are special to them and share memories of when they visited these, explaining to others why they are special.

### **Literacy Development:**

We will have two different core texts next half term, 'Errol's garden' by Gillian Hibbs and 'Yucky Worms' by Vivian French. While these are fiction books, the children will use what they learn from both of these texts as a basis for non-fiction writing. Firstly, they will learn how to write simple instructions for planting seeds and how to look after them. Followed by a simple diary of how their mini gardens grow. When they write the diary, they will begin to write the days of the week, a much needed skill as we think about the transition into year 1! 'Yucky Worms' will help us to learn simple facts about garden worms which we will use to write a simple fact sheet. We will debate whether we think worms are good or not so good and record what happens each day in our homemade wormery. We will continue to learn how to read some words on sight and begin to write more of these from memory. Daily phonics session will be used to build on our fluency when reading words with the letter sounds we know.

### **Mathematical Development:**

Some of the seeds we plant will be sunflowers that we harvested at the beginning of the school year. Children will measure the height of these at certain times, asking and answering questions such as why are some taller than others? Mini beast hunts will take place with children tallying their results.

In our White Rose Maths sessions, recalling number bonds to 10, including subtraction facts will be the main focus of learning in week one before continuing to be a daily focus in our maths sessions throughout the half term. We will then move to learning about numbers to 20 and beyond. We will learn how to recognise and represent teen numbers probably playing our favourite game of the moment .... Bingo! We will use bigger numbers to count on and count back from using what we know to solve simple problems.

### Communication and Language:

We will be building on the skill of following instructions to complete simple tasks as well as giving instructions for others to complete. We will have weekly forest school sessions with Sarah where our communication skills will be so important to keep each other safe and happy. Last half term we began to recite poetry and rhymes and will continue to do so into the summer. We will continue to retell our favourite stories.

### Physical Development:

Daily handwriting sessions will now take place with children beginning to take more care with letter formation linked to the letter sounds they are learning in phonics. In the garden, we will have a den building focus on a range of scales. From very small mini beast hotels to dens we can play and move around in. Our PE sessions with Mr Thompson will continue where we will fine tune our teamwork and co-operation.

### Expressive Arts and Design:

As it is the beginning of a new term, we will once again begin with self-portraits. We will look at our past attempts and appreciate the progress we have made. Our focus artist is Picasso and we will use what we learn about the style of his work to create new self-portraits using a variety of media. We will learn to make clear observations when painting still life pictures of a range of plants and flowers for display.

### Help at home by ....

This half term, I will be uploading a menu of optional homework activities to the website and sharing via Tapestry. This homework is completely optional and the activities included are intended to be fun things to do as a family. They will be based around our topic and the children can choose to carry out as many of the activities as they wish. The activities will cover the different areas of the EYFS curriculum. Alongside this, I will be pinning different activities onto busy things. There will be more information to follow by the end of week 2 via Tapestry. Letter formation will become a big focus in writing activities so please try to encourage correct formation at home too. I'm hoping to arrange a quick 'how to help' session about letter and number formation so look out for more information coming soon. As always, read, read, read every night!

### Don't forget ....

- A spare change of clothes, labelled, to stay in school
- Check all clothes are labelled
- As the weather warms up, remember hats and suntan lotion
- PE bags to stay in school. **PE is Thursday**
- Water bottles sent into school daily - **water only**
- Reading folders in school each day
- Sign the reading journal at least 5 x per week - please use only **one page per week!**
- Tapestry updates from school will be at least once per week - feel free to add your own messages and photos
- Check your parent mail account regularly
- [www.broomhaugh.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.broomhaugh.northumberland.sch.uk)
- Follow us on Twitter - @BroomhaughCE for weekly photo updates (please like and share!)