

Literacy Development:

This very short half term will allow us to focus our literacy skills on non-fiction writing where we will become authors of our very own non-fiction texts. First using the text 'Errol's Garden' the children will work to design and nurture their very own tyre gardens alongside a friend. There will be various planting opportunities throughout the half term, and we'll even use the sunflower seeds harvested way back in the autumn term. Using the second core text 'Yucky Worms' we will learn simple facts about garden worms and debate whether we feel worms are actually yucky or not! After making wormeries and observing them at work, we will use our knowledge to write a simple fact sheet about them.

Reception

Summer 1

How will it grow?

PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development)

As well as observing plant growth, we will think about how we have grown and changed since birth. We will talk about how we can keep our bodies healthy by learning about a balanced plate and sorting foods into different groups. We will learn how to look after our mental health with daily opportunities for mindfulness and yoga. Mrs Errington will come to teach us how to do peer massage. In RE, our key question will be 'which stories are special and why?' Each week we will learn the name of a new key religion from around the world. We will learn to recognise some simple symbols from these and listen to and discuss popular religious stories and the messages they give.

UW (Understanding the World)

As the main focus for next half term is plant growth and minibeast observations, lots of our learning will take place in the garden and outdoor areas. We will work in teams to design and then make mini gardens in a tyre. We will take care of the gardens, observing and recording weekly changes in mini shared diaries and writing opportunities. The children will also experiment with different seeds including cress, potatoes and beans.

Children will learn about the different creatures found in the garden and other outdoor areas with a mini focus on worms. We will work together to build a wormery and observe them at work. Bug viewers and other similar resources will be readily available to support observations. We'll possibly learn about the life-cycle and habitats of a range of mini-beasts including caterpillars into butterflies (we'll continue this learning into the next half term where we will hopefully hatch our very own!)

Mathematical Development:

Some of the seeds we plant will be sunflowers that we harvested at the beginning of the school year. Once they have started to grow, children will measure the height of these, asking and answering questions such as why are some taller than others? Various mini beast hunts will take place with children learning how to tally their results.

In our White Rose Maths sessions, we will continue to recall number bonds to 10, including subtraction facts. Doubling and halving numbers will continue to be a focus for quickfire games. Alongside this consolidation in our daily sessions, we will move to learning about numbers to 20 and beyond. We will learn how to recognise and represent teen numbers explaining what we know and see about each number. We will use bigger numbers to count on and count back from using what we know to solve simple problems.

Communication and Language:

Following instructions will be a key part of our learning this half term. Children may be asked to verbalise instructions for simple tasks for other children to complete. We will continue our weekly forest school sessions with Sarah where our communication skills are so important to keep each other safe and happy. There will be a bigger focus on asking questions to clarify our thinking and as always learning and using new vocabulary remains a high priority.

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 artist study this half term will be Guiseppe Arcimboldo who used plants and other objects found in nature to adapt portraits. We will definitely be experimenting with his style. We will continue to use objects found naturally to refine our drawing skills as we learn to make clear observations when drawing and painting.

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 which can be found on school360. Letter and number formation become a big focus in writing activities so please try to encourage correct formation at home too. Please continue to support with reading as you have done since September.

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 - please always send in a coat!
- **Forest School is Wednesday and PE is Friday**
- 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
- Follow us Facebook - Broomhaugh CE First School