

YEAR GROUP OVERVIEW



Reception – Autumn 1

Topic

Magical Me: As we begin the school year, the children dive into learning all about themselves and their peers. The children learn to understand that we are all different, but we are all equal. This half term the children will learn about the different families we all come from and that every child is a part of our school family.

This half term is when the children really learn all about the school rules and expectations and how they can become a Meadowdale Star. Through our learning the children will quickly embed our Meadowdale school rules - Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe.

Communication and Language (Speaking and Listening)

This term we encourage the answering of and asking of 'how' and 'why' questions, thus encouraging them to use longer sentences and to use the word 'because'. We introduce children to new vocabulary through stories, these are known as the 'Wondrous Words'. Modelling of developed talk is through story retell and role play. Children who need a boost in their confidence and articulation will take part in small group 'NELI' intervention.

Literacy (Reading and Writing)

As Reception children begin their journey to become strong readers in our school, we introduce them to single sounds through daily Read Write Inc phonics lessons. We will then encourage the children to hear and recognise these sounds at the beginning of words. As children develop a deeper understanding of individual sounds and can blend them together, they will access simple texts matched to their individual phonics ability. We aim to foster a love of reading in all children and begin this very early on by sharing daily stories in class and provide the opportunity for you to continue to share these stories at home together.

Children practise the formation of letters at the same time as learning sounds, this gives them a deeper understanding and readiness to begin to attempt early writing. There are a number of opportunities to write for purpose and pleasure in our environment, both indoors and outdoors. When children are confident in knowing the first sounds, they begin to be able to segment words and write the sounds they hear in them. This quickly in turn enables them to attempt to write captions and phrases.

Maths (Number and Shape, Space and Measure)

Number and place value - We explore the numbers to 5, with a deeper understanding of the value of each number and aim to subitise with confidence. We develop the counting principle and apply these in a number of practical situations. We will begin to compare groups and discuss the totals and how to group them.

Shape, space and measure - Across our continuous provision, we offer the opportunity to develop vocabulary through construction using 3D shapes, exploring capacity and measure in the sensory station and the use of positional language through movement.

Personal Development (P.S.H.E.)

In Reception at Meadowdale, some children have already connected through Nursery and others are joining us for the first time. This is the perfect time to learn about the importance of friends, family and what makes us special. We will learn about the ways to care for ourselves and one another. We will also establish and follow the school rules and learn the importance of working together as a team.

Understanding the World (Geography, History, Science and Computing)

We will develop an understanding of the human body and how to look after ourselves; from eating our 5 a day to exercising and keeping ourselves clean. The children will have the opportunity to get hands on with different fruits and vegetables and explore what being healthy looks like for them.

We familiarise ourselves with our school grounds, making simple maps of the outdoor areas and looking at features of the environment for purpose and use. We explore further afield by discovering a wealth of non-fiction texts and stories.

As part of understanding the world around us, technology is important both inside and outside of the classroom and from an early age we ensure that children understand the need to use the internet safely. At Meadowdale, children will also take part in activities from Project Evolve to develop their sense of self identity, and Barefoot Computing to introduce and nurture the idea of Computational Thinking.

Expressive Arts (Art and Music)

We love to create and design in Early Years and now is the time to explore a range of materials to achieve different effects, including shading, blending, smudging and making marks. We experiment with colour, design and texture and produce some beautiful 'Magical Me' masterpieces using and combining different artistic materials.

Music is used throughout our Early Year's environment to encourage the children to explore different sounds of instruments and express their emotions whilst using them. Within their play, children are encouraged to investigate the different sounds of the instruments and create their own songs.

Physical Development (P.E.)

Children will develop their fundamental movement skills through the topic of Gymnastics. They will spend time learning basic principles of a PE lesson such as safely using space, stopping safely, using and sharing equipment and working individually, with a partner and group. They will take part in activities which will develop fundamental movement skills. Children will also play simple games and begin to understand and use rules.

Religious Education (R.E.)

A focus of this half term has been on the importance of our families and the people around us. We will learn about the people who keep us safe and well in our communities such as family, teachers, doctors and nurses. The children will learn about their different job roles and learn about why they are important to us.