

Communication, Language & Literacy

We will be extending our vocabulary by using WOW adjectives in our sentences whilst looking at stories by Julia Donaldson. After reading *The Stickman*, we will look at rhyming words and create our own. We will also be exploring different modes of transport and writing about them. Using our knowledge of letters and sounds we will be making invitations to our Christmas Nativity. This half term we will be grouping the children for phonics. This is so we can ensure each child is being challenged appropriately within their knowledge of letters and sounds.



Transport and Julia Donaldson



Mathematics

We will be mastering the numbers 1 to 5 and looking at different ways of making these numbers, such as one part is 2 and the other part is 1: the whole is 3 ($2+1=3$). Using our knowledge of number we will introduce the concept of more than and less than. We will be using ourselves, objects and unifix cubes to demonstrate this in a practical way. Through hands on exploration and games, we will be learning to add two groups of objects together. Measuring length is fun in Reception – we will be learning to measure each other, objects, and furniture using non standard measurements for e.g. footprints, straws and unifix cubes.



BASICS & Characteristics of Learning

This half term we will be focussing on the following two characteristics:

- Playing and Exploring - being willing to 'have a go' at a range of activities.
- Active Learning - being involved and concentrating.



Building Learning Power

Our learning muscles will be stretched this term as we focus on being a **Collaborative Koala** by working together to follow class promises and helping each other with activities.



Physical Development

We will develop fine motor skills through a range of activities such as threading, play dough, small construction and finger painting.

In our dance lessons we will be learning a new dance for our Christmas Nativity.

We will be practising our rolling, throwing and catching skills using a variety of balls.

We will also be developing our balancing skills on the balance bikes in the outdoor area.



Expressive Arts & Design

We will be kick starting this half-term by making bright, glittery firework pictures. In music, we will be learning songs for our Christmas Nativity. We will be looking at different types of transport and how they are made.

During international week, we will be watching clips of dances from around the world and trying to copy how the people move.



Personal, Social & Emotional

We will be focusing on developing good friendships and talking about what makes a good friend. For anti-bullying week, we will be discussing what makes a good friend and making friendship bracelets. During circle time we will be celebrating our strengths and sharing them with each other. We will have a road safety talk about how we will stay safe outside of school and a special visit from the police.



Understanding the World

In our ICT lessons we will be learning how to log on the computers and how to hold and control a mouse correctly. We will be looking at the story of Christmas and discussing how people around the world celebrate this festival. We will be exploring modes of transport and how they work.



Please remember:

Phonic homework is given out every Thursday. Please work every day with your child to practise recently taught phonic sounds and words.

Reading books are given out every Thursday. Please read every day at home. Bring your completed reading record into school on Tuesday with your reading and library books.

A weekly Newsletter is sent out every Friday. At the bottom of each newsletter we provide a suggested home activity. Please make an effort to do this with your child over the weekend.

The children should come to school wearing their P.E kit on Wednesdays (Dance) and Fridays (P.E).



Montpelier Primary School

The Big Talk



What is BIG Talk?

Talk happens all the time in Reception. We model different types of talk throughout the day. We have a weekly carpet session where we focus on developing the children's speaking and listening skills.

1. In Big Talk the children sit with their learning partner.
2. We practise looking, listening and speaking to our partners.
3. We introduce and explore new vocabulary.
4. We allow plenty of time for children to talk and discuss and then share ideas with the class.

What else can we do?

- Talk, talk, talk! Give your child a rich language experience by making use of everyday situations and sharing stories, rhymes and poems.
- Be a good language model: speak to your child in the language that you feel most comfortable with. It is the quality of interaction that is important, it doesn't matter which language you use.
- When reading with your child at home encourage them to use picture clues to work out new words. Talk about the what's happening in the pictures and discuss what might happen at the end.
- Play dough, small construction, threading and painting, all these will help to develop strong finger muscles.
- When your out and about see what numbers are around in your environment for e.g. on door and buses.
- Try make it part of your daily routine.
- Remember 5 minutes is better than a 15 minute slog!

Key websites:

- ⇒ <http://www.ictgames.com/>
- ⇒ <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>
- ⇒ <http://www.starfall.com/>
- ⇒ http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics_games.html
- ⇒ <http://www.focusonphonics.co.uk/sound.htm>
- ⇒ <http://www.primarygames.com/math/grade/kindergarten-math-games.php>
- ⇒ <https://uk.ixl.com/>

