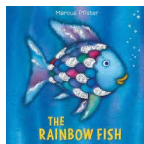


Early Years Topic Letter - Autumn 1 - All about me!



Welcome back to children who were with us before the summer holidays and a big hello and welcome to the new children joining us!

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer holiday. I cannot wait to hear about all your adventures!

Gentle Reminders:

- **Drop-off is at 8:45am.** The side gate closes at 8:50am. If you are late, please go to the office.
- **Pick-up is at 3:15pm, or 11:45am for morning-only children.**
- **Please send a change of clothes** for your child, if they wear nappies please include nappies/pull-ups, wipes, and nappy bags.
- **Only book bags/folders** should be brought to school—our cloakroom is very small.
- Spare clothes can stay on pegs in a **carrier or drawstring bag**.
- **Dress for the weather:** bring a **waterproof coat** daily and a **sun hat** in warmer weather.
- **Water bottles are essential**, and **everything should be clearly named** to avoid items getting lost.
- **PE is on Thursdays. Forest School is on Tuesdays.**
On both days, children should come dressed in their **PE kit**.
For Forest School, they must wear **long trousers (joggers)** to protect their legs.
- Please check your child's **Tapestry account regularly** to see their progress and updates. Feel free to upload any special moments from home—children love sharing these in class!

If you have any questions or concerns, I'm always happy to chat at drop-off or pick-up.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



We will always reinforce positive behaviour in EYFS. Supporting the children to develop their personal, social and emotional development is at the core of what we do in every way.

This half term we will place particular emphasis on:

New Beginnings

Seeing themselves as a valuable individual.

Being me in my world

Class Rules and Routines

Supporting children to build relationships

Dreams and Goals

Physical Development



This Half Term: Independence & Motor Skills

We're helping children become more independent by practising:

- Putting on shoes/coats
- Using the toilet or recognising nappy changes
- Peeling fruit and using milk straws

Please support at home by encouraging your child to dress themselves and wash their hands.

We're also developing:

- **Fine motor skills** with activities like threading, using tweezers, dough disco, and name writing
- **Gross motor skills** through climbing, running, and bike play

Our PE focus is ball skills.

Reception will focus on writing letters correctly. Nursery will begin name writing when ready.

RE



RE in Reception - This Half Term

Reception will learn about **Christianity, communities**, and different **festivals and celebrations**. We'll also join in with **daily whole school worship**. We will be learning:

To understand what a community is.

To understand why it is important to be part of a community.

To be able to give an example of a community they are part of.

To have an awareness of our Christian Church community.

Communication and Language



This half term, we're focusing on:

- Learning the *Rainbow Fish* story and new words from it
- Singing familiar and new nursery rhymes
- Practising listening and doing at the same time (two-channelled attention)

We also support each child's individual next steps in listening, understanding, and speaking every day.

Literacy



Reception Phonics & Literacy - This Half Term

We are starting our **Read Write Inc.** journey by learning Set 1 sounds through short daily 'Speed Sounds' sessions. These help children say pure sounds and begin to read simple words like *cat, top, sit*.

Each child has a sound wallet in their bag—please practise the sounds at home. Little and often really helps!

Every **Thursday**, your child can choose a **reading for pleasure** book to bring home. Please return it each week so they can swap it. Please write a quick note in the reading record about how they get on.

We'll also:

- Learn 'red words' like *I* and *the* (these can't be sounded out)
- Practise writing by labelling pictures and using initial sounds
- Focus on rhyming, alliteration, and sound recognition through fun games and songs
- Develop mark making, tripod grip, and using letters to give meaning (e.g. shopping lists, labels, and captions)

Nursery Literacy - This Half Term

This half term we will:

- Learn and retell new and familiar **nursery rhymes**
- Share the story of *The Rainbow Fish* and act it out together
- Practise **writing our names** and develop **mark making** skills using chalk, pens, crayons, water, and sensory trays
- Take part in fun '**Squiggle While You Wiggle**' sessions to support early writing
- Encourage children to **draw** and talk about their pictures and marks

We'll also start **Phase 1 Phonics**, focusing on **body percussion** and **rhythm and rhyme** to build listening and sound skills.



Key vocabulary: writing, letters, sounds, stories, text, words, rhyme.



Maths in Early Years

Maths is part of our whole day! Each morning, we count how many children are in and record it using tools like **Numicon** and **number sentences**.

We also do a short **daily Maths activity**, and children use these skills during their play and learning throughout the day.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Nursery Maths</u></p> <p>This half term we will focus on: Counting to 10 through nursery rhymes, songs and games</p> <p>Counting a small group of objects</p> <p>Use language relating to size - small, big, tall etc</p> <p>Using language like 'more' and 'a lot'.</p> <p>Sorting and matching</p> <p>Exploring patterns</p> <p>Key vocabulary: big, small, tall, short, long, more, less, fewer, greater, sort, same, different, pattern.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Reception Maths</u></p> <p>This half term we will focus on: Matching and Sorting</p> <p>Comparing amounts</p> <p>Comparing mass, size and capacity</p> <p>Exploring patterns</p> <p>Representing 1,2,3</p> <p>Key vocabulary: match, sort, same, different, more, less, greater, fewer, size, mass, capacity, volume, patterns, number, quantity.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Expressive, Art and Design</u></p>  <p>This term, children will have the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore classroom areas and resources independently • Join in with songs, role play, and colour mixing • Build models with construction toys 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Understanding the World</u></p>  <p>This Term We Will Be Learning About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families - Naming family members, talking about what they do together, and comparing with other families • Fiction vs. Real Life - Reading stories about families and learning the

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sing call-and-response songs • Create self-portraits and junk models, and talk about their work • Listen to Julia Donaldson songs and explore sounds and rhythms • Work together on creative projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make superhero masks <p>Key vocabulary: art, materials, cut, stick, collage, create, make.</p>	<p>difference between real and made-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiar People & Community - Talking about people they know and their roles • Exploring the Environment - Navigating the classroom and outdoor areas • Jobs & Transport - Learning about different occupations and how transport helps • The Past - Talking about how things have changed over time and using cameras to explore this <p>Key vocabulary: family, community, mum, dad, brother, sister, grandma, grandad, uncle, aunt, cousin, friend, past, present, now, then.</p>
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