

St Cuthbert's Early Years



Spring Term 1: What is the Learning?

Communication and Language:

What we will be doing...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will be learning to maintain our attention. We will learn to focus our conversations around a theme. We will learn to be careful listeners. We will learn to use talk to explain what is happening and what might happen next. We will develop our vocabulary: grouping and naming, describing and looking at rhyming words.
We hope we will then be able to...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sit quietly, listen and concentrate for a little longer. Share our own ideas and listen to others' ideas around the same theme. Respond to others' ideas in conversation. Respond to more than one instruction at a time. Learn new words and use language more confidently.
What you might like to do at home...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in conversations around a theme – an item of interest or something they have discovered. When at the supermarket: How many vegetables/fruits can you name/learn the name of? At the Garden Centre: How many animals/flowers can you name/learn the name of?

Physical Development:

What we will be doing...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaining increasing pencil control and confidence with correct pencil grip. Learning about staying healthy (exercise, diet, sleep, hygiene). Reception – Rugby
We hope we will then be able to...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold pencils correctly, improve control and handwriting, forming recognisable letters. Name healthy and unhealthy foods and show an understanding of a healthy balanced diet and the need for a wide range of foods. Have an understanding of how they can look after themselves and stay healthy.
What you might like to do at home...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colour and draw and remind your child to snap their pencil like a crocodile with their thumb and index finger with their middle finger acting like a pillow underneath the pencil. Talk about what's on your plate at tea time, sort and group food types and talk about their benefits. Whilst carrying out daily routines just have a chat about why we need to do it (eat, sleep, bath, brush teeth, wash our clothes etc)

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

What we will be doing...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attending to and taking into account what others say. Engage in more exploratory talk to think about and solve problems. Learning to explain our own ideas/knowledge/understanding. Demonstrating to our new children our good behaviour and how to follow routines. Learning to describe ourselves and others in positive terms. RE: Come and See Curriculum (Please see separate newsletter)
We hope we will then be able to...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take turns in conversations with others and solve problems with others through exploring ideas. Talk about our thoughts and ideas in a way which others can understand. Show awareness of boundaries, demonstrate positive behaviour and help others. Talk about our abilities and what we are good at. Know that we are all unique and be able to identify special things about themselves and others.
What you might like to do at home...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the library or look on youtube for people with a particular skill or kindness (football, dancing, helping others) These will provide great stimulus for conversations and prompt the question...What am I good at? Talk about what you are good at and what talents others have. Or a special quality you have. Allow your child thinking time and opportunities for trial and error.

Literacy

What we will be doing...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We will be looking at well-known stories and poetry including rhyming and descriptive language.• We will learn to use lists and recipes and write them too.• Using phonic knowledge to read and write letters/words/sentences to communicate meaning.• Name writing and improving our letter formation.• Talking about, drawing or writing our weekly news in a sentence.• Reading in groups, 1 to 1 and sharing stories.
We hope we will then be able to...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write or contribute to a poem, list and other forms of writing.• Follow instructions and give instructions to write or contribute to a recipe.• Write their name/form letters correctly and be an appropriate size.• Communicate weekly news verbally/through illustrations/through writing.• Have an awareness of sentence structure.• Develop knowledge and enjoyment of books and develop book and reading skills.
What you might like to do at home...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share some poems and rhymes.• Write shopping lists together, or lists for any purpose.• If your child has a reading book at home then listen to them read as much as possible and sign the record.• Practise name writing, some Reception children will begin to write their surname.• Talk to your child on a Sunday about what weekend news they would like to share at school.

Mathematics

What we will be doing...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognising numbers up to 10, 20 or beyond more consistently and order numbers• Counting a range of items and finding more and less than a given number or addition and subtraction.• Representing numbers by writing or matching a numeral to a quantity.• Learn about length and height.• Learning about 3d shapes and revisiting 2d shapes – naming, describing and comparing similarities and differences.
We hope we will then be able to...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will use a counting strategy to count items in irregular arrangements.• Identify which quantities have more or less and combine two quantities to find how many altogether.• Say what one more or 1 less than a given number is or carry out some addition/subtraction sums.• Trace/copy/write numbers or begin to record sums in number sentences.• Use the language of length and height and order items according to their size.• Name and describe 2d/3d shapes.
What you might like to do at home...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Count anything and everything – let your child hear counting and encourage them to count. Make a deliberate mistake and see if they can correct you.• Make some number cards and order them. Play a game in which you guess the missing number – use the language of more and less. ("It's 6 that is missing because it is 1 more than 5".)• At home and out and about – have a shape hunt – which shapes can you see?• Visit topmarks.co.uk and primaryinteractive.co.uk for a range of mathematical games to play.

Home-School Books

Children will bring home a weekly activity in every Friday.

This will reflect learning which we have been focussing on in school.

Children are encouraged to hand this in on the following Friday.

If you are able to identify an achievement or a successful learning experience which has happened at home then please fill out a special 'Home-Time Hooray Certificate'. (Available from our notice board) Hand it in to a member of staff so we can celebrate your child's 'home learning' in school with their peers, 5 class champion points awarded for every certificate received.

Reception Reading Books

Please make as much time as possible to listen to your child read and sign their reading record. This will support them greatly in consolidating the reading skills they are learning in school.

Practising little and often is best. If they read 5 times every week they receive a prize from our raffle box.

Please ensure your child brings their reading materials to school every day.

