

Castle Primary School

Curriculum Letter

Year R



Autumn Term 2023

Characteristics of learning

The Characteristics of learning are the ways in which a child engages with other people and their environment. The Characteristics, listed below, underpin learning and development across all areas of the Early Years curriculum and support the child to remain an effective and motivated learner. Our planned learning experiences this term aim to foster these characteristics ensuring that our children continue to develop as effective and motivated learners.

Playing and exploring – engagement

Finding out and exploring

Playing with what they know

Being willing to 'have a go'

Active learning – motivation

Being involved and concentrating

Keeping trying

Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Creating and thinking critically – thinking

Having their own ideas

Making links

Choosing ways to do things

What we will be learning in Year R



Welcome to the Hedgehog and Squirrel classes. This half term will be spent getting to know you and your children as they continue their learning through the Early Years Framework. Through our Discovery Time and our direct teaching sessions we will support each child's learning, following their own interests and teaching them the skills they need to move forward. The outline below is a brief description of the learning that we aim to cover this term.

Me, My Family and My World

During the first half term we will all be getting to know each other and learning about the things that are important and special for each of us. The children will become familiar with the routines of school life and learn how to work independently in their new environment. As the season changes from Summer to Autumn we will learn about Harvest and how this is celebrated. We will also look carefully at all the changes we see happening around us that tell us that Autumn has arrived.

Celebrations

During the second half term we will share our family experiences of celebrations as a starting point for our learning. We will learn what and how, people of different cultures and faiths celebrate during the Autumn months. As we come nearer to Christmas, we will consider the celebration of birthdays and birth, starting to think about why and how Christmas is celebrated not just in this country, but all over the world. We will hear and re-enact the Christmas story and learn how Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Literacy - Reading

Listen to a wide range of stories and use the language from the stories when discussing them.
Sequence story events.
Learn the letter sounds.
Blend sounds together to make words.

Literacy – Writing

Write our first names.
Begin to write lower case letters correctly.
Identify the individual letter sounds in short words; e.g. cat, pin....
Write the initial and end sounds of short words.

Creating with Materials

Experiment with applying paint and mixing colours.
Learn to join recycled materials and card using glue and tape.
Talk about what they are creating.

Mathematics – Number and Numerical patterns

Sort and match by colour, type, size etc. Recognise and name numbers to 5. Count forwards and backwards to 5 saying numbers that are 1 more or 1 less. Count out from a group up to 5 objects.

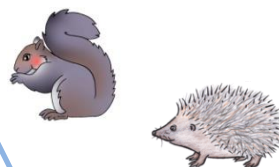
Mathematics - Shape, Space and Measure

Begin to recognise and name some 2d shapes using them to make pictures and patterns.
Use the language of time to describe the times of the day and when something has happened.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Care for each other, Sharing and building respectful relationships. Learn routines and develop Independence. Try new activities and join in during group times.

Welcome to School



Physical Development

Use dough and large mark making to build strength for Writing.
Develop co-ordination through physical activity.
Develop scissor and cutting skills.

Past and Present. People, Culture and Communities

Talk about our families.
Explore celebrations, traditions and customs. e.g. Harvest, Diwali, Hannukah Birthdays and Christmas

Speaking

Reacting to what is said.
Taking turns in conversations.
Talking about stories they have heard, events that have happened and objects that interest them. Beginning to use newly introduced vocabulary.

Listening Attention and Understanding

Begin to understand how to listen carefully and why it is important. Listen and join in with familiar stories, songs and Rhymes. Learn new, topic specific vocabulary.

The Natural World

Explore the environment.
Look at changes in the outdoors, describing what they see, hear and feel.
Investigate the process of Harvest, seeds, decay and growth.

Being Imaginative and Expressive

Join in singing well known songs and rhymes. Explore simple percussion instruments. Listen to and move in response to music. Begin to develop storylines in their play.

How you can help your child at home...

Below are some suggested activities you may like to try at home with your child.

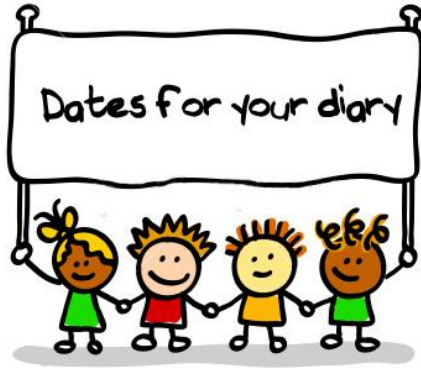
- Practise their reading book for a few minutes **every** day.
- Share stories regularly.
- Play the tricky word bingo games.
- Learn the letter sound cards which come home each day. Please take a look at the link below in the Little Wandle Scheme for help saying the sounds correctly.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

- Find objects to go with each letter sound as they are learnt.
- When your child has learnt the first 4 letter sounds (s,a,t,p) begin to make words with them. (e.g. at, sat, pat, tap)
- Practise counting to 10 and counting out sets of up to 5 objects
- Practise recognising and naming the numerals to 5 then 10.
- Look for 2d shapes in the environment: circle, square, triangle and rectangle.



Key Dates for this term



17/11/23

Children in Need

11/12/23

Year R Nativity in the Main Hall 2.00 p.m.



Other dates for the term will be communicated to you via email,
the school newsletter or Tapestry.