



Orleans Primary School

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Autumn Term 1 Nursery Newsletter

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter which will give you a broad outline of what your child will be learning this term. The children are settling in really well and we look forward to an enjoyable term. Our topics this half term are "Ourselves" and "Autumn". We will discuss our likes and dislikes and what makes us all the same and different. We will explore the new nursery environment and observe seasonal change through the start of Autumn.

Our curriculum is divided into seven different areas of learning, although they are not taught separately, but are usually linked together.

Personal, social and emotional development

Our main focus will be on following the daily routines of the nursery, taking turns, sharing and helping to tidy up. We will look to build self-confidence and play within small groups, creating and developing friendships. We will be developing the children's independence in putting on coats for outside. Your help in teaching your child to put on their coat will be of great help.

Physical development

Through opportunities in the outside area we want the children to become confident in moving, climbing and balancing and to develop an awareness of obstacles. In day to day activities, the children will experience opportunities to use scissors, pencils, tape dispensers, glue sticks, rolling pins and cutters.

Communication and language

We aim to develop sustained listening skills, through learning rhymes and listening to stories. We encourage the use of questioning, to find out more, such as "why" and "how" and "who" and "when". In talking, we want all the children to feel confident enough to make contributions to discussion in a group and to listen to others. We will begin our weekly circle time discussions which will focus around the adventures of Bertie bear our class bear! Please look at our talk-display board (next to the dough table) which will highlight the latest source of discussion for you to continue with your child at home.

Literacy

We want all the children to develop favourite stories and rhymes in the nursery, and join in with rhymes and repeated refrains. The children will be developing their ability to write through mark-making activities. Learning to write requires a lot of rehearsal, in many forms, including pens, paints, foam, cornflour and pencils! We will be tuning into the sounds all around



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us in the environment, please use the fallen autumn leaves as an opportunity to listen to crunching sounds under-foot!

Mathematical development

Our focus will be on number - counting, matching numbers to sets and using numbers in our play. We will be playing lots of counting games and singing number rhymes such as '5 cheeky monkeys'. We will focus on the different shapes all around us and will go on a shape hunt, looking for shapes around the school. We will also use shapes for printing, sorting, naming and making pictures and patterns.

Understanding the world

In technology, we will introduce our listening corner and encourage the children to use the CD player independently to listen to stories. We will explore how toys work through the use of buttons such as sound books. We aim to develop exploration and observation skills in our autumn topic, focusing on the changes of the leaves on trees. We will also focus on insects and creatures that live in our gardens; particularly spiders and hedgehogs.

Expressive Arts and Design

Collage, drawing and painting will be our focus this term, we will explore the colours of autumn and experiment with printing materials. We will encourage the children to join in with dancing and ring games. In music we will play with instruments, learn to respond to stop and start signals, and respond to conductors signals for fast, slow, loud and quiet while accompanying songs. We will also listen to different music pieces each day during snack time and will discuss our musical likes and dislikes.

We hope this overview of the term is informative so that you know what your child is doing during the time they are at nursery. Please check the notice board inside the nursery for regular weekly updates.

Please note - We ask parents to make a **VOLUNTARY £5 contribution per half term** to the nursery - this helps towards buying foodstuffs, dough ingredients and special consumable items that enrich the children's experiences. If you would like to contribute, please do so through PARENT PAY (letter to follow) Many thanks in advance for your support.

REMINDER - School uniform is compulsory - please make sure it is named.

The children will be using the outside area on a daily basis, so please make sure your child has a coat and is dressed appropriately for the colder, wetter weather.

Wow moments!

We would love to hear about those special Wow learning moments your child experiences out of school. It could be a new skill, such as swimming or riding a bike, independently getting dressed or using a piece of technology at home. We would like to celebrate and record these moments within their 'Wow book' in the nursery and ask you share them with us using the wow stickers. Please feel free to take and complete a wow moment sticker for your child at any time. (These can be found in the folder at the nursery entrance).

PLEASE NOTE: NURSERY WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY 21st NOVEMBER

This is for parent consultations. We will send a letter closer to the time so that you can book an appointment.

The nursery team.