

## **FSU Curriculum Newsletter**

Dear Parents/carers,

Our topic in the FSU for the Summer Term is 'All Aboard...' We will begin by taking a walk to the park in Witheridge - using our walking legs as transport, while we investigate what other vehicles and transport we see around our village. This will be supplemented by some further traffic-spotting from the front of school. This half term, our learning will be based around land travel including cars, buses and trains. After the half term break, we will progress to think about transport which we could use to venture across water, including through the sky.

We will also learn about the change of season and all that Summer brings to the world around us.

Information about the plans we have in place to support our Tadpoles with their transition to Reception Frogs will follow separately. We will, of course, also be preparing to say goodbye to our current Reception Frogs as they graduate from the FSU, ready for the next adventure on their learning journey in Key Stage 1.

### **Reception PSHE**

During PSHE lessons, our Reception children we will be learning about how we make good friendships, and in particular, the importance of maintaining friendships by being able to overcome difficulties when they arise and how to help ourselves and others if we are upset or hurt. As we move towards the end of the school year, we will discuss our feelings towards the changes we notice in ourselves, those around us, and in our changing circumstances. We will address worries and concerns around change and talk about how and who can help us with any worries we may have.

Our School Values for this term are Courage and Friendship.

### **Reception Art and DT**

The theme for our Art this term is Collage - we will be using paper and fabric and will begin with 'tear pictures' in the style of Eric Carle's Very Hungry Caterpillar, to create our own transport themed collages.

### **FSU Phonics & Literacy**

Our Nursery children will be continuing to develop their skills in listening and attention. As our Tadpoles begin to prepare for their transition to Reception, we will introduce a 'sound of the week'. Information about how you can help prepare your child for learning to read and write in Reception will be covered in our Information Evening for Parents and Carers of New Starters on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June. Further information about this will follow separately.

Our Reception children will be continuing to follow the Read Write Inc (RWI) programme. There will be an emphasis this half term on correct letter formation. We will be supporting the children to ensure that they start and finish their letters in the

right place and they will begin to learn about ascenders and descenders (tall letters which reach to the sun, those which dip into the sea and those which stay in the boat!). The children have made good progress so far this year - supporting them at home by ensuring that they read to you *at least 4 times a week*, will help to ensure that they are ready for Year 1.

Our literacy will be based around the key texts we will be enjoying as part of our 'All Aboard...' topic work. We will be using positional, descriptive and instructional language in our speaking and writing tasks. Our outdoor role play area will be transformed into a bus station and subsequently a train station and we will be constructing our very own 346 bus route to Witheridge inside the classroom!

### **FSU Lending Library**

Sharing and enjoying books together with your child is the single most important thing you can do to support your child's learning during their Early Years and beyond. Ideally your child should have the opportunity to share a book with a grown-up every day. In order to support our families with this, we have launched/extended our lending library to all our Nursery children. This is located in the entrance hall and can be accessed at the end of the school day. We ask you to make a note of the book your child has borrowed and to return it before swapping it for another. We will provide an opportunity for the children to look at and choose books which they would like to borrow.

Please try to talk to your child about the stories you read with them and ask questions i.e. what has happened so far, what might happen next? What does the word..... mean? How is... (the character) feeling - how do you know? What is the character thinking - why do you think that?

Help them develop their imagination around the story - how could the ending have been different

### **Favourite Books**

Thank you to those who brought favourite books to share with the class at story time last half term. Books relating to any form of transport are particularly welcome this term, however, we will do our best to find time in our week to read any favourite stories which the children would like to share with us.

### **FSU Maths**

Our Reception children will begin the term investigating 3d shapes, before moving on to develop their understanding of numbers beyond 10, which will involve halving, doubling and sharing shapes and quantities.

In the Nursery, we will be learning about sequencing events and numbers and also using positional language. Noticing and working with 2d and 3d shapes will also feature lots in our play, creative work and construction this term.

## **Reception PE**

All Reception children will continue to require their PE kit every Wednesday and should arrive in school wearing their PE kit on this day. Any jewellery, including earrings, will need to be removed or covered for PE lessons, so ideally, it is best to remove these before coming to school on PE days. Forest School will take place on Wednesday afternoons for Reception - you will have been informed separately if this applies to your child.

## **Reception Sharing Our Learning Session with Parents/carers**

We will be inviting parents/carers of Reception children into the FSU, to share their learning, on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April from 8.45am. This is an opportunity to share your child's learning with you, however, it is entirely optional and the children will be supported to understand that not all parents/carers will be able to attend due to work commitments. If you are unable to attend and would like to arrange to share your child's learning at another time, please let me know. I will endeavour to facilitate this.

## **Supporting your child's learning at home**

Please add anything that relates to any of this learning or any 'Wow Moments' that your children have at home to Tapestry - we love to see and hear about their learning and achievements and to give the children an opportunity to share these with their friends.

Myself and the FSU staff are very much looking forward to supporting, encouraging and celebrating your child's development and thank you for supporting your child's learning at home. As always, please just let me know if you would like any further information or would like to discuss anything with me.

Kind regards

Mrs North and the FSU Team.