



Shirley Manor Primary Academy



"Working together to achieve excellence"



January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Nursery - Spring 1 Curriculum The Deep Dark Wood

In this half term we will be focusing on the stories of The Gruffalo and Little Red Riding Hood.

Here is a brief outline of the activities we will be covering:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

We will continue to promote independence, by encouraging the children to continue with the routines we have learnt last year. We will continue with our weekly circle time sessions to encourage children to talk about their likes and interests and make new friends.

Communication, Language and Literacy:

Developing vocabulary related to winter, The Gruffalo, woodland and woodland animals. We will be looking at books about cold places, owls, and the Gruffalo. We will be listening to and joining in stories and rhymes. We will continue to encourage the children to make marks in different provision areas and give meaning to the marks that they make. Children will be encouraged to find their name card and attempt to write their name. Some of the older children will be encouraged to recognise their name cards independently.

Maths:

We will continue to concentrate on a different number and shape each week and we will continue to practice our counting skills. For example, we will count out animals to match the Gruffalo themed numbers and use shapes to make animal pictures.

Understanding of the World:

We will investigate winter, cold and ice. We will look at woodlands and what types of animals live in the woodlands. We will celebrate Chinese New Year, the Year of the Dragon.

Physical Development:

We will be developing our gross motor control when climbing, balancing and travelling. Children will be given lots of opportunities to engage in 'Funky Finger' activities such as threading cards and pencil control sheets to develop their fine motor control.

Expressive Art and Design:

We will be making Gruffalo masks, making split pin Gruffalos, we will also have a go at making snakes to name but a few of the activities.

There are many ways in which you can help to develop your child's learning at home. Here are a few suggestions from us and please let us know about your good ideas so that we can share them with other parents!

1. Bake at home, talk about measurements and count out ingredients and buns etc.
2. Share your knowledge of winter and woodlands, look at the different seasons and discuss the changes.
3. Look for numbers and letters in the environment for example, car number plates, house numbers, street names, shop signs etc.

If there is anything you wish to discuss, please don't hesitate to make an appointment via the office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Tidswell and the Early Years Team