



Term 2 in Orchard Class

This term's focus topic is: "Celebrating All About Me"

Problem solving, Reasoning & Numeracy

We will start this term by learning how to read data from pictograms. This will include number recognition work and consolidation of our counting skills. We will then move on to thinking about positional language, reading o'clock times through the help of stories, simple number bonds to 5 and identifying "greater than" and "less than". We will of course be having some Christmas fun - learning about shape and pattern before the end of this term too.

Communication, Language & Literacy

We plan to continue our phonics work this term, recapping the sounds we have already learnt, continuing to identify these sounds in words but also learning our new phonemes and digraph sounds (those single sounds which are made up of two letters e.g. ch, sh, and th.) We will use our phonics understanding to then keep breaking down simple words in reading and encourage the children to begin to have a go at writing them themselves. Speaking and listening will also be a focus this term in the form of our Christmas Nativity.

Knowledge & Understanding of the World

Our topic this term, lends itself beautifully to this area of learning as we will be finding out all about ourselves and our body parts, including thinking about how to stay healthy and safe. We will also be finding out about traditions for different celebrations across the world - encouraging the children to ask and answer their own questions about Bonfire night, Armistice day and Hanukkah. Of course Christmas gives us a brilliant focus for finding out about the past as well and we will be discussing traditions that people follow for this time of year.

Personal, Social, Emotional Development

All children have settled so well in term 1 and we are sure that this will continue this term. Self-confidence is going to be key for our Nativity this term and we will be encouraging the children to talk about their strengths and feelings throughout the term. We will be thinking about how everyone is different but also the same through our topic work but by focusing on different world traditions it will also allow us to think about safety aspects that we come across in everyday life e.g. Firework safety, stranger danger, Road Safety and safety at Christmas time.

Creative Development

Music will be of great importance this term - particularly with the learning of our Nativity songs. The children will also be making various traditional crafts for different festivals during the term, which will involve and encourage the development of different fine motor skills and imagination. Within these crafts from around the globe, we will be experimenting with different materials and different techniques, something that we are sure the children will enjoy.

Physical Development

The three key words for our PE lessons this term will be: MOVE, MATCH and MAGIC. This unit uses a range of modified activities and equipment to support the development of fundamental movement skills. The children will have the opportunity to develop their locomotion, static and dynamic balance and object control and manipulation within stage appropriate physical activities. PE lessons this term will again be on a Thursday afternoon.



Dates for your Diary



Monday 3rd November - First day of Term 2

Monday 10th November - Wear Odd Socks Day to start Anti-Bullying Week

Friday 14th November - Children in Need day - dress spotty/Pudsey (letter to follow)

Tuesday 25th November - Parent/Teacher Open Evening (3.30 - 6pm)

Friday 5th December - Whole School Christingle Service (Letter to Follow)

Wednesday 10th December - Nativity dress rehearsal to whole school.

Thursday 11th December - Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day (All children invited to come to school dressed in a Christmas Jumper)

Thursday 11th & Friday 12th December - Nativity performance to parents at 2pm.

Friday 12th December - Santa Run for all pupils in school - please bring festive headwear to school.

Tuesday 16th December - Christmas Parties in school all afternoon. - See Below

Thursday 18th December - Whole School trip to Blackfriars Pantomime

Friday 19th December - Last day of Term 2, Christmas Carol Service (Letter to follow)

Tuesday 6th January - First day of Term 3.



Orchard Notes



Uniform & belongings

As the weather is starting to change for the Winter, please could we ask that all children come to school in a jumper or cardigan as well as a coat ready for them to use at play times. Some children have been coming to school just in a t-shirt or jumper recently and need to borrow coats which we unfortunately do not have enough spares for.

Please could we also ask that all your child's belongings and items of clothing are clearly named (in particular PE kits, fleeces, cardigans and jumpers) to prevent them getting mixed up and lost easily. We do try and encourage our children to place their uniform on their pegs to keep them organised however at this young age it can be difficult and things do get lost at times.

Many thanks.

Tuesday 16th December - Party Afternoon!

All children are invited to come to school in their party or fancy dress clothes ready for our class party in the afternoon on Christmas Party Day. A party lunch is provided for all children but please could everyone bring with them a disposable or plastic plate, bowl, cup and spoon in a named carrier bag.

Reading Books

We are already seeing the children make super progress in their reading skills in Orchard class, and those children who are being heard regularly at home are really benefitting from it. Please could we remind you to make a note in your child's reading record when you have heard your child read at home so that we can change the books accordingly.

Please try not to worry if your child is finding blending difficult at present - regular practice and repetitions will help to make it click when they are ready.

Many thanks.

Orchard Class Webpage/Tapestry

Please do keep an eye on our Orchard class webpage - www.quadringprimary.co.uk Click on the apple icon in the tree on the "Home" page and it will take you straight to our class page. This page is updated regularly for you to see what the children have been doing in school.

Please also keep an eye on their Tapestry journals as we update these as regularly as we possibly can around the updating of their work folders and webpage. If you notice anything at home or are feeling particularly proud of anything your child has said, or is doing, please do add an observation onto their tapestry account as we would love to see it and share in the praise.

Many thanks.