

Our half-termly topic

This half-term our topic is 'Food'.

We will be reading lots of stories about food including 'Goldilocks and the 3 Bears', 'Who's been eating my porridge?', 'Oliver's Vegetables', 'Oliver's Fruit Salad' and 'Oliver's Milkshake'.

One of our focus stories we will read is 'Handa's Surprise'. We will look at and talk about the title, the blurb, the author and illustrator. We will look at the different types of animals and fruit in the book and what happens at the end of the story...what a surprise ending! We will read this focus story book several times over 2 weeks so that the children become familiar with the text and also allows us to discuss the tricky words and what they mean. By the end of the 2 weeks the children will be able to answer so many questions and tell us about the beginning of the story, what happens throughout the story and what happens at the end of the story.

We will also be learning about where our food comes from- where does it grow? Is it a fruit or vegetable, fish or meat? How does it get to the supermarket?

We will be learning about healthy eating and making healthy choices. We will decide which food we can eat lots of and the ones we call a 'treat'.

We will be making and tasting different types of foods. When we read the story about 'Goldilocks and the 3 Bears' and 'Who's been eating my porridge?' we will be making and tasting our own porridge with different toppings. While reading 'Handa's Surprise' we will taste different exotic fruits just like Handa had in her basket. We will also learn about Chinese New Year and will taste food such as Chinese noodles, sweet and sour sauce and prawn crackers! (We will send notification out to parents before we taste any food in nursery to ensure we have your permission).

Our art topic this half-term is 'painting and mixed media'. We will begin by investigating different coloured paints. The children will have the opportunity to paint anything of their choosing. We will also be finger painting, painting with coloured water outdoors (on the ground) and will be painting for a purpose when we do our display of 'Handa's Surprise'. During this topic we will also be making collages, exploring mixed media and making patterns and art using loose parts.

Our RE theme is 'Celebrations'. We will be talking about how we celebrate New Year and will be learning about Chinese New Year and Nowruz (the start of spring). We will link this topic to the weather and seasons, talking about how our world changes as we move from autumn to winter to spring. We will finish the topic by talking about Holi and the traditions and celebrations linked to Holi.

In PE we will be learning about 'gymnastics'. We will be learning basic gymnastic skills through the topic of animals and their habitats, exploring and creating shapes, balances and jumps. The children will be copying, creating, remembering and repeating a short movement sequence.

General Information:

Morning nursery begins at 8.45am. If your child comes to school late and the gates are locked, please take them to the reception office and a member of nursery staff will collect them from there.

The session for part time morning children finishes at 11.45am. Please wait for your child at the nursery gates and a member of staff will send them out to you as soon as they are ready.

Full time children will need a healthy packed lunch (please do not send food with any nut content and grapes and large blueberries will need to be cut in half) or a school prepared dinner. Please order and pay for your child's food via Parentpay.

Afternoon nursery session begins at 12.30pm - 3.30pm. These children will need to have eaten their lunch at

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home before the session begins. Please wait at the red school gate (enter from School Street) and a member of staff will collect your child from there.

Nursery finishes at 3.30pm. Please wait at the nursery gates and a member of staff will send your child out to you. Parents can pick their nursery child up earlier if their siblings are in a class with an earlier finish time (please let staff know if you need to do this).

Please send your child with a bottle of water in a labelled water bottle for them to access throughout the day. It will be sent home each day to be cleaned and returned the next day.

Nursery library will be held in the school library every 2nd Thursday 8.15am - 8.40am. We hope you can come along, choose a story and read with your child. Children learn so much language from these sessions and reading for pleasure is so important to all of our children. We will email you to remind you of the dates we will be holding these library sessions.

Your child will need a pair of wellies for outdoor playtime. The field can sometimes become quite wet and muddy, yet the children still love to be out there! This will also help keep indoor shoes clean and carpets mud-free!

If the weather is cold please send a warm coat, hat and gloves if necessary.

As usual, if anyone different is to pick your child up from Nursery, or you are going to be later than expected, please let a member of staff know, or give the school a ring. Also please could you collect your child promptly at 11.45am or 3.30pm for full time children. Thank you.

How can you help at home?

Ask your child what they have been doing at nursery. Talk to them about what they enjoy doing.

Sing rhymes and songs. Ask them about their favourite songs. Tell them about your favourite songs.

Talk to your child. Ask them questions. Language development is everything at this age!

Read, read, read! Ask questions about the main characters, where the stories are set and what happens in the story.

Count at every opportunity. Show them 'how many' using their fingers.

Encourage them to mark– make every day. Let them draw on the paths using buckets of water and brushes or chalks. Let them see you writing. Explain what you are writing (give writing a purpose).

Point out letters, numbers and shapes in the environment.

Build up their language through pretend play.

Show them how to use scissors– snipping paper is a good start.

Encourage them to get dressed on their own. Show them how to put tights and socks on.

Show them how to turn their coat sleeves the right way around. Show them how to zip their coat up on their own.

Go on walks. Let them run, climb and balance.

Encourage them to eat a varied diet.

Ensure they know the importance of brushing their teeth twice each day and after meals if possible.

Thank you for your support

From Mrs Pollard and the F1 team