**Reception Curriculum Overview Autumn** **Term**

Art will always be part of our continuous provision. Paint, playdough, clay, pastels, chalk, colouring pens and pencils are always available for the children to use at any time. We are paying close attention natural items. I may introduce some focussed class Art activities after the October half-term.

# Focus Children: I will select 2 children each week, these children will be our focus children for those 5 days. We will send a letter home to let you know that your child is one of those children that week. It would be extremely helpful if you can put as much as you can on Tapestry (our interactive learning journey) during that week, as the children can share these with their class mates and it will help us focus on their interests that they have shown during their time at home. These can be very simple things such as riding a bus to town, helping to prepare the dinner or a new book they like to share. We can then enhance this at school by building a bus in the big construction area and all pretending to be taking a bus trip somewhere, or preparing a similar meal in the classroom etc.

We have two PATHS sessions each week. These are short lessons that are led by the characters Twiggle the Turtle, Daphne the Duck, Duke the Dog and Henrietta the Hedgehog. They teach us to recognise our emotions, name then and understand that it is ok to feel these emotions, and how to deal with them. They also introduce the giving and receiving of compliments. This helps when we give compliments to our Star of the Week each day. Each week a child is chosen to be the star helper. They get to perform special tasks, wear the special bracelet, and receive the compliments to take home and share with you.

We sing every day. We have currently been learning counting songs and songs with a Harvest theme. We will begin to talk about the meaning of tempo, pitch. Pulse and rhythm as well as making our own improvised rhythms.

Literacy: Everyday the children are encouraged to sit with an adult and think of their own story whilst the adult scribes it for them. During this process the adult takes the opportunity to discuss full stops, finger spaces, capital letters and the initial sounds in words. As knowledge increases the children will be given the opportunity to write some of the words themselves. These are then hung up on our washing line, ready to be introduced by the author and for them to select actors to play the parts. These will usually be performed at the end of the day.

Phonics: Phase 2 phonics will start on week 2. We will learn the single letter phonemes (sounds) and how to form the graphemes (letter writing). The adults will encourage children to think about the sounds that letters make through our story scribing sessions. In addition to this, we will start small reading group sessions. During these sessions we will spend the whole week looking at blending to read the book, comprehension of the story, some punctuation, any new vocabulary, and how to read the book with expression. The book we have been looking at will then come home to spend the week with you so that your child can read it several times through with you. These sessions will commence when we have covered enough letters in our phonics sessions to be able to start blending full words.

Maths: During this first half term, Maths will be everywhere in our continuous provision. All of our maths equipment is continually on display for the children to access at any time. Children will be encouraged to weigh the sand in the sandpit, count how many people are in the role-play area, add up their scores on the game they are playing, weigh the correct amount of flour, butter and sugar using balance scales and two eggs in our independent baking area, discuss symmetry when making leaf/fruit prints, talk about the properties of 3D shapes when deciding how best to build a castle, talk about longer and shorter when creating models/jewelery in our construction area. These are just some of many examples of how the adults will encourage the understanding and use of mathematical language in our setting.

Our adult-led ‘Maths Moments’ will commence on week 4 of this half-term. We will look at matching items, sorting items, guessing the rule with sorted items, the language of more/most and fewer/fewest, sharing equally, comparing size, mass and capacity, making simple patterns and daily counting to 20.