

Communication and Language

Listening and Attention

- Children listen attentively in a range of situations and give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately.

Understanding

- Children answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences.

Speaking

- Children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs, using past, present and future forms accurately
- Develop explanations by connecting ideas.

Physical Development

Moving and Handling

- Children show good control and co-ordination, negotiating space.
- Handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.

Health and Self-Care

- Children know the importance for good health and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe.
- They manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.

Personal, Social and Emotional

Making Relationships

- They take account of one another's ideas.

Self-Confidence and Awareness

- Children are confident to share their ideas.

Managing Feeling and Behaviour

- Children talk about how they and others show feelings, talk about behaviour, and its consequences.
- Children know how to care for living things.

Literacy

Reading

- Children read non-fiction information using their phonics to decode and blend non-familiar words, showing their understanding by explaining to others what they have read.
- Children begin to understand where different information can be found e.g. books, internet.

Writing

- Children label different diagrams e.g. parts of the plant.
- Children write instructions of how to care for living things.
- Children begin to use WOW topical words to deepen their explanations.



Every half term the children in our Nursery and Reception Classes develop their skills through our cross curricular topic. This half-term we will be learning through the topic:

All Change!

This topic allows children to make observations and look closely at God's wonderful world and all that is in it.

Mathematics

Number

- Children recognise numbers on instructions.
- Children count accurately and estimate the number of seeds, beans, plants.
- Children solve simple word problems e.g. If I have 4 flowers and 3 blow away, how many flowers will I have left?
- Children recognise numbers in the date as we talk about seasons and Months of the year.

Shape, Space and Measure

- Children use money to buy things for the garden centre/vegetable shop role play areas.
- Children measure how much their plant has grown.

Understanding the World

The World

- Children will look at similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things.
- They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments vary.
- Make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.

People and Communities

- They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.

Technology

- Children use a range of technology for different purposes – CD player, Camera.

Expressive Arts and Design

Exploring Media and Materials

- Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them.
- They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.
- Children experiment with using materials from God's world e.g. natural materials such as twigs, leaves, seeds etc.

Being Imaginative

- Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes.
- They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.
- Children using objects from God's world to create pictures in imaginative ways.



Things to Do at Home

These activities are designed to enhance your child's learning and development.

Please share with your child's class teacher any wonderful experiences that link with this half-term's topic. We would love to see examples of what you have done at home, please email photographs to early-years@st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk or send work into school for your child to celebrate with their peers.

At this point in the year, completing these tasks is optional.

- Go on a Spring walk - look at how the environment is changing, how the daffodils are starting to grow, how the leaves are beginning to show on the trees, how the flowers are beginning to bud etc. Talk about how this is different to the Autumn and the Winter seasons and how it will be different in Summer.
- At home observe how daffodils change, how the petals open out - why does this happen? Why do we need flowers, what do they do?
- Write a list of how you can help look after God's world.
- Use natural materials from the garden to make a picture.
- Make a spring time garden from junk modelling.
- Talk about different feelings when it is raining to when the sun is shining.
- Use opportunities of rain to talk about capacity - is the plant pot full, half full, empty from the rain.
- Talk about how we dress for the different seasons. Dress your favourite Teddy ready for the weather today.
- Share stories such as - The Tiny seed, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Emma's Lamb, The Shepherds Boy, Out and About, Pond Life, The Egg, Tadpole and Frog.