



Personal, social, and emotional development

Summer 1 learning: Once Upon a Time...

This half term, our learning will be centred around the theme "Once Upon a Time...", where we will explore a range of traditional tale stories. Through these engaging texts, children will develop their imagination, creativity and language, while making meaningful connections across all areas of learning.

We will be focusing on building positive relationships and supporting children's emotional wellbeing. Through stories and class discussions, children will explore what it means to be a good friend, how to show kindness and how to understand their own and others' feelings. We will also encourage children to develop confidence by setting simple goals and persevering when things feel challenging.



Physical development

Children will take part in regular physical activity through our weekly rugby sessions and multi-skills lessons, including cricket-based activities. These sessions will help to develop coordination, balance and teamwork, as well as encouraging children to stay active.

Communication and language

Developing communication skills is at the heart of everything we do. This half term, children will be encouraged to talk in full sentences, share their ideas and take part in discussions about the stories we read. They will practise answering 'why' questions, learning new vocabulary linked to our themes (such as castles and materials), and retelling familiar stories in their own words. Role-play and storytelling will play a key role in helping children build confidence when speaking.

Maths

In maths, we will continue to develop children's understanding of number by exploring counting beyond 20 and building numbers up to 20 and beyond. Children will practise adding and taking away, as well as exploring patterns and how numbers work. We will also investigate shapes, learning how to manipulate and combine them, and begin to explore sharing and grouping, which supports early multiplication and division skills.

English

Phonics

In phonics, children will continue to develop their ability to blend sounds to read words and segment sounds to spell them. They will learn new sound patterns, including adjacent consonants, and begin to read longer words. There will also be a focus on common exception words and simple suffixes such as -ed and -ing. Regular practise will help children to become more fluent and confident readers.

Reading

Alongside developing decoding skills through phonics, children will also focus on understanding what they read. They will practise reading simple words, phrases and sentences. The children will re-read familiar texts to build confidence and fluency. Through discussion, they will explore characters, events and key moments in stories, and begin to retell these stories in their own words. Our key texts this half term include a range of traditional tales and modern twists, such as *The Three Little Pigs*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, *Zog* and *The Princess and the Pea*.

Writing

Children will continue to develop their writing skills by practising correct letter formation and using their phonics knowledge to write words and simple sentences. As the term progresses, they will begin to use capital letters and full stops more consistently and start to sequence their ideas. Writing opportunities will be linked closely to our stories, allowing children to write for a purpose, such as labelling, caption writing and simple retelling.

Understanding the world

This half term, children will explore the world around them through a range of exciting topics. In science, they will investigate materials and their properties, including which materials are strongest and how different substances behave. They will also take part in simple cooking activities, exploring how ingredients change. In geography, children will look at maps and learn about different places, including castles and famous landmarks such as bridges. In history, they will begin to compare characters and events from stories, helping them understand the idea of past and present. In Religious Education, children will explore the concept of being *special and precious*. They will learn how different people show care and kindness. In computing, they will be introduced to simple online safety concepts, including understanding ownership and how to label their work.



Expressive arts and design

Creativity will be a big focus this half term. Children will explore a range of materials to create artwork inspired by our stories, including making models such as castles and characters. They will also learn about artists such as Monet and experiment with different styles. In music, children will enjoy singing songs linked to our theme. We will explore rhythm, listening and performance.

Summer 2 topic learning: *Down on the Farm*

This half term, our learning will be centred around the theme "Down on the Farm". Through a range of engaging stories and real-life experiences, including our farm visit, children will explore animals, habitats and the natural world. Our learning will continue to build on storytelling, creativity and curiosity across all areas of the curriculum.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term, we will be focusing on changes and transitions. Children will explore how they have grown and what they are looking forward to as they prepare for the next stage in their learning. Through discussion and reflection, they will continue to develop confidence, resilience and independence. We will support children in understanding their feelings, celebrating their achievements and building positive relationships with others.

Physical Development

Children will take part in a range of physical activities, including dance and multi-skills sessions. These activities will help to develop coordination, balance and control, while also encouraging teamwork and confidence. Fine motor skills will continue to be developed through creative activities such as cutting, joining and model making.

Communication and Language

Developing communication skills remains a key focus. Through our Pathways to Write unit *The Sea Saw*, children will take part in rich discussions, ask questions and share their ideas confidently. They will learn to use new vocabulary in different contexts, connect their ideas using simple sentences and retell stories in their own words. Role-play and storytelling will support children in expressing themselves clearly and engaging in extended conversations.

Maths

In maths, children will continue to develop their understanding of number through activities such as sharing and grouping, number bonds to 10 and working with numbers to 20. They will explore patterns; including repeating patterns and begin to make connections between numbers. Practical activities will support children in applying their understanding through real-life contexts.

Phonics

In phonics, children will continue to develop their blending and segmenting skills to support reading and writing. They will practise reading longer words with adjacent consonants and will revisit key sounds to build fluency. There will also be a focus on common exception words and simple suffixes such as -ed and -ing, helping children to become more confident and independent readers and writers.

Reading

Alongside phonics, children will continue to develop their comprehension skills through our Pathways to Write text *The Sea Saw*. They will read simple words, phrases and sentences and re-read familiar texts to build fluency. Children will explore characters, events and emotions within stories, answer questions about what they have read and retell stories with increasing confidence and understanding.



Writing

Children will continue to develop their writing by forming letters correctly and using their phonics knowledge to write words and simple sentences. Through the Pathways to Write unit, they will write for a range of purposes, including captions, simple descriptions and short pieces of narrative. By the end of the unit, children will begin to independently retell or rewrite a familiar story, applying capital letters, full stops and their growing phonics knowledge.

Understanding the World

This half term, children will explore the natural world with a focus on animals and life on the farm. They will learn about different habitats and environments, including where animals live and how they are cared for. Through hands-on experiences such as our farm visit, children will develop their understanding of how to treat animals safely and respectfully. In science, children will observe and explore the world around them, including investigating seeds and how things grow, noticing changes in the seasons and exploring natural materials. They will also develop their understanding of technology by collecting and sorting information using simple programs. In Religious Education, children will explore how people care for the world and why it is important to look after it.

Expressive Arts and Design

Creativity will continue to be an important part of our learning. Children will explore a range of materials and techniques to create artwork inspired by farm animals and our stories. They will take part in craft activities such as making animal models and cards, as well as experimenting with different textures and materials.

In music, children will enjoy singing, exploring rhythm and performing, developing their confidence and creativity through a range of songs and musical activities.

Weekly learning



Please find a snapshot of our weekly learning on our class page and ideas for supporting your child at home. Find the Peacock page here: <https://31xschool.com/peacock-class-blog/>

Contact

Don't forget, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at lorna@31xschool.com Don't forget to follow your child's learning on Tapestry using your login or contact me if you need help to do this.



Please continue to report school absences by telephoning the school office on 01202 822460 or via email: office@31xschool.com.

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