

Curriculum update

8.05.25

Science

This term the children are going to be learning about plants. We will learn to identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. We will also identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.

The children have already begun learning about seeds and are germinating runner bean seeds in the classroom ready to grow new plants. They loved watching a time lapse film of how seeds germinate and grow into fully grown plants.

We have enjoyed spending time in our outdoor garden during forest school and have prepared our raised bed ready for planting. We learned how to prepare the soil ready for new seeds and what our seeds will need to grow successfully.

English

The children have been concentrating on writing accurate sentences that have capital letters to start, finger spaces after each word and full stops at the end. We have also been learning how to use question marks appropriately when writing question sentences. The children are being encouraged to join ideas within a sentence using the word 'and' so that their sentences are more detailed and interesting to read.

We are encouraging the children to use their phonics skills to sound out any tricky words that they do not know how to spell.

The children will be covering a range of genres linked to our theme of unity in the community. They have started learning how to write letters to people, how to write in diary form and to construct short stories.

Phonics

We have been working extremely hard on re-capping all of the phonics sounds that we have learnt so far this year. We have been putting all our knowledge together ready for our Phonics Screening Check which takes place in June. The children have been working very hard to decode 'alien' words which are nonsense words as well as real words, as they are required to read these as part of their Phonics Screening Check. This check will take place as part of our normal class routine and will not be presented as a 'test.' The children have had plenty of practice in working in this way so it will be a familiar activity for them.

Maths

The children have continued to develop their number skills and have been practising doubling and halving numbers. They have also been working on the teens numbers and looking at how they are made using a ten and some ones. For example, the number sixteen is made up of one ten and six ones. They have completed lots of practical counting activities using resources to help them and have worked at problem solving activities.

We have also been learning about length and have been estimating and measuring objects using a centimetre ruler. The children have learned that cm stands for centimetre.

We are going to be learning how to count in twos, tens and fives and this will link to our work on money.

We continue to work hard on our number formation and ensure that digits are written correctly.

PE

We revisited our gymnastics skills last term building up our abdominal muscles and upper body strength. We practised lots of skills to help us to build towards being able to do a cart wheel and forward rolls. We added in lots of challenges along the way, for example completing a forward roll and standing up without using our hands.

This term, we are continuing to develop our fundamental skills through athletics. We will be developing: balance, co-ordination and agility. This will help us as we move onto invasion games. This week, we started by looking at how to hold a racket correctly and tested different equipment on the racket to see which was the easiest and hardest to keep control of.

Music

This term in music we are beginning to learn the ukulele. We have spent time thinking about how to hold the ukulele and to learn about the different parts. We know that it belongs to the string family and can name some other instruments from the string family too.

This week we have learned the C chord, making sure that we are using the correct grip to create a harmonious sound.

French

We have begun to learn some simple French words and phrases and have started to learn some songs in French too. We will continue practising these more this term.

Unity in the Community

Our theme this term is 'Unity in the Community' and we have begun by learning about the local area. We have already been on a walk around the village and created maps of what we saw and experienced. We have learnt about human and physical features and thought about the key human and physical features that are in the village. This led us to think about things we would love to add to the village so we decided to make a list. We had lots of exciting ideas including: swimming pools, factories, water parks, ice cream parlours and lots more. The children then used the map to help to decide the best place to put their new amenity and they had to be able to explain why that was the best place, for example a water park on the edge of the village because it needs lots of space. We are looking forward to a visit from a local resident who has a great knowledge of Madley through the ages. We will be looking at old photographs of the area and making comparisons with how Madley looks today.

