



Foundation Curriculum Overview

Autumn 1 2026-2027



Phonics

This term we will be teaching daily phonics sessions using the Read, Write Inc scheme. We will start the term teaching whole class lessons focusing on learning to recognise, blend and form the alphabet sounds. Each week we will share videos on class dojo of the sounds we have learnt. During lessons, we will use a colourful sound mat to act as a prompt for how to say the sound.

Just before half term, we will assess the sounds that children know, and they will then be placed into smaller phonics groups.



Literacy

This term we will be reading a range of stories. We will begin to learn to retell some familiar stories in a more simplified format. Children will begin to learn how to retell a familiar story using story maps, words and actions. We will introduce vocabulary sessions focussing on vocabulary from our key texts. Story time will be a daily part of our routine with a range of stories read to the children to develop their vocabulary and to foster a love of books and reading.

Some key texts will be: Elmer and The Little Red Hen.



Maths

We will begin the term by focussing on numbers to 5 – matching numbers to quantities and sorting different amounts and objects in different ways. We will look at representing these numbers in a range of ways and learning how these numbers can be matched e.g. 3 is made of 1 and another 1 and another 1. We will also be introducing children to the concept of subitising (recognising quantities to 5 in different arrangements without counting).



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be following the Think Equal scheme of learning. Our cuddle toy Jigsaw Jennie will help the children learn to calm, breathe, and think. We will name emotions like happy, sad, angry and calm. They will begin to use a mood meter to help them begin to understand their emotions.



Communication and Language

We always encourage children to speak in full sentences. We will be encouraging the children to talk about their emotions and how different situations make them feel. We will be teaching children a range of new vocabulary and encouraging them to use these words in their daily interactions. Children will be encouraged to speak these words being used throughout the day and hopefully this will continue into their home life.



Understanding the World

We will begin the term by talking about our families and our own experiences using our green 'Bear Books' as a prompt.

As part of our Welcome to Woodford topic we will be exploring our school grounds and we will create our own simple maps using photos and resources that we collect on our journeys around the school. We will also be learning about people who help us in school.



Physical Development

Children have daily opportunities to develop their gross and fine motor skills by accessing a range of resources. These include the use of balancing equipment for gross motor development and tweezers and threading for fine motor development. We will also deliver daily 'squiggle while you wiggle' sessions which will develop the children's gross and fine motor skills.

We will have weekly PE sessions which will focus on developing our core strength, coordination and balance skills. During our weekly Outdoor learning sessions, we will learn how to be safe and respectful when we are in our forest whilst completing some fun activities such as creating clay tree faces and natural art pictures.



Expressive Arts and Design

Throughout this term we will be learning a range of different creative skills and exploring different materials and resources. This will include using poster paints to create recognisable pictures, including self-portraits. We will begin to explore transient art both indoors and outdoors and explore transient art both indoors and outdoors using natural materials.

We will also be learning to sing a range of familiar songs and rhymes and exploring sounds using percussion instruments.



How I can support my child this term:

- Watch Phonics virtual classroom videos with your child and practise saying the sounds of the letters that have been taught. Practise orally blending words. (Homework sheets with these sounds and oral blending activities will be sent home on a Friday and links to videos on our Virtual classroom will be shared via Class Dojo).
- Learning planners will be sent home on 18th September, we will send information about how to use them with the planner.
- Should you have any questions or queries about the curriculum, learning, wellbeing or behaviour we have an open door policy, please just ask and we will be happy to help.



Important information



Outdoor learning will be on a Tuesday; this will start on 22nd September. Please send your child to school in their PE kit and school shoes, wellies can be left on the welly rack outside your child's class or taken home each week. Please can these be named.



PE will be on a Thursday, please send your child to school in their PE kit and trainers/plimsolls.



Our library day will be on a Thursday starting on 22nd September. Please can children return their library books to school on a Wednesday so that we can check them back into the system ready for our library visit on the following day.