



Neroche Community Primary School
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September 2021

Acorns Class Curriculum Letter - Autumn 1

Dear parents,

Welcome back to First Friends, and a big welcome to the new starters! It has been lovely to have some of the children back in school and hear all of the exciting things they have been doing with you over the summer break.

Every half term you will receive a curriculum letter to inform you of the children's learning for the next half term. You will be able to gather information about your child's learning and development using the school website, letters/emails, the pre-school foyer notice board, logging into your child's individual tapestry profile or catching us for a chat at the end of the day. There will be an opportunity for school starter parents to discuss their child's development during the autumn parents' evenings.

Topic

This half term our topic is titled All About Me. Please see our topic overview sheet to see which objectives will be covered as part of the topic.

We have planned a wide range of exciting activities and opportunities to engage the children with their topic related learning. The activities will include making fruit smoothies, talking about what makes us individual, identifying parts of the body, sharing photos of our families and pets, sharing children's favourite foods and mealtimes, investigating using our senses, celebrating the harvest festival by making soup and experiencing signs of autumn.

We will be encouraging the children to talk about who they live with including pets. We would like to welcome parents to support their child by uploading family photos onto individual tapestry profiles to support children in speaking and show and tell opportunities each week. Please ensure any photos are added before Monday 11th October.

Children who attend a Thursday afternoon session will take part in PE with our sports coach Mr Bourne and also a forest school session with our forestry teacher Mrs Dellow. If your child attends Acorns on a Thursday afternoon please ensure they arrive with suitable footwear, warm waterproof clothing and an extra drink. Forest school and PE sessions run whatever the weather.

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Day to Day Routine

Throughout their time in preschool the children will be able to engage in planned play activities to support them particularly in their prime areas (Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development). These activities are available inside and outside the classroom for the children to freely enjoy. We will also start focused literacy and maths activities that each child will have an opportunity to take part in throughout the week. In literacy we will be focusing on the key texts: Starting school by Allen and Janet Ahlberg, Once there were Giants by Martin Waddell, Ruby's Worry by Tom Percival, Hairy Maclary by Lynley Dodd and exploring sounds in the environment. In maths we will be focusing on counting objects, sounds, fingers, movements and reciting numbers to 3, understand and use positional language, discuss routes and locations using words such as 'in front of' 'behind', make comparisons between objects relating to size.

We are particularly focusing on building up the children's independence in the setting. For example; using the toilet with independence, hand washing, taking coats on and off, and putting resources away once they have used them. Please can you also support you child at home with these areas too.

Tapestry

At Neroche we use an online journal called Tapestry to record observations, share letters and weekly updates of what the children will be doing in the setting. These updates are an opportunity for you to continue to share learning and experiences with your child at home also. We will also share information such each 'Word of the Week' we focus on to widen vocabulary and author focuses/books we read, so there will be regular notifications to look out for to help you feel informed about the things your child learns at school.

In light of the new EYFS Framework 2021; observations, photos and videos of your child's individual learning and development will be less frequent as staff will be more involved with children's play and scaffolding learning rather than sitting aside to observe and complete assessments. Observations will be posted to celebrate individual wow moments, successes and achievements.

The journal is then continued throughout reception and KS1 if your child remains at Neroche.

If you have not activated your account please let us know and we can resend the activation link to your email.

Key Persons

All children will be allocated a key person. Your child will be given a key person during the second week back (week commencing 13/9/2021) and will receive a slip of paper with all members of pre-school staff photos and names on and one highlighted adult whom will be your child's key person.

In our setting it is the key person's role is to support your child in settling and accessing activities at an age appropriate level around the environment. The class teacher (Miss Thorne) is responsible for the teaching and learning development of all children therefore if you have any questions or concerns please speak to Miss Thorne (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) or Mrs Bidgood as class HLTA (Monday and Friday).

If you feel unable to speak to a member of pre-school staff please contact the school office to arrange an appointment to speak to a member of the leadership team.

Updating information

Be the best that you can be. **Live and Learn for Life** Show that you care.

Please ensure that the office have any contact detail changes e.g. phone numbers or addresses. If your child needs an inhaler or other medication in school on a daily basis, please ensure that all medication has been brought into school as soon as possible and that it is clearly named and in date. We also need an accompanying completed medication permission form which you can print from our website or collect from us on the school gate.

Please inform us if there is any other change with dropping off and picking up arrangements. Either contact the school office or let the adult on the door know during drop off. If your child is absent please contact the school office to let us know.

As the weather get colder and wetter please ensure your child comes to school in appropriate named clothing and footwear. A rain coat and wellies to keep in preschool would be beneficial as we enjoy our outside learning space and forest school whatever the weather!

We are really looking forward to a busy and exciting half term. Please do not hesitate to contact the Acorn mailbox or catch us on the door if you have any queries.

Miss Thorne and the EYFS Team



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