

Subject	What will my child be learning in Nursery? Topic: Do dragons exist?
English (Literacy)	Talk for Writing- . This half term, we will be looking at traditional tales and nursery rhymes. The children will begin by thinking about and sharing some of their favourites. We will be working with the fantastic story 'Each peach pear plum', by Janet and Allan Alhberg, which will help us to become familiar with lots of traditional characters! We will use props and story maps to help us to become familiar with the text and continue to use our bodies to support retelling the story through actions and expressions. As always, we will have lots of fun innovating the story as we make changes to the text.
Communication and Language	Phonics -The children will continue to engage with our 'Mr Tongue' stories each day. 'Mr Tongue' includes a set of exercises for lips, tongue and mouth that help children to develop awareness and movement of these different parts in order to produce speech sounds effectively. We will also continue with our schedule of gradually introducing Set 1 Speed sounds as part of the Nursery Read Write Inc program, alongside Phase 1 Letter and Sounds activities to support listening, attention and the ability to 'tune in' to sounds and recognise differences and similarities between them.
Mark making/writing	We will continue to develop fine motor skills as we use lots of different materials and media to make marks. The children will have the opportunity to use a variety of tools, including pencils, crayons, chalk, brushes, whiteboards and markers as they find lots of opportunities for 'writing' and recording in their play. They will be able to create their own fairy tale books, plan and design castles and use their marks in a number of ways as they represent their ideas and experiences as our topic develops.
Maths	The children will revise and consolidate their knowledge and understanding of numbers to 10 and will start to look at representing these numbers in our mark making. We will count out and group the things we see as we play 'I spy' and start to use numbers to represent sets of objects. The children will also engage in activities to help them to work with and represent numbers in different ways, such as claps, jumps etc. In our topic work, the group will count out their treasure as they raid the dragon's nest in our PE activity! Shape, space and measure- the children will use their developing number knowledge to support recognition and familiarity with shapes- for example by looking at number of sides. In our topic work, the group will measure beanstalks and use shapes for a purpose as they create dragons and castles, through both table-top activities and large scale modelling.

<p>Understanding the World</p>	<p>People & Communities We will have lots of fun getting to know our new children this half term as we learn about their lives and families. We will also think about some of the fairy tale characters that we come across in our topic work- how are they different to us? How are they the same? Of course, we will also be celebrating Chinese New Year very soon!</p> <p>The World We are going to plant our own beans and see what happens... maybe we will have a beanstalk growing in nursery? We will also think about Baby Bunting from our 'Each peach..' story as we explore floating and sinking as try to find the best item to use to float Baby in the water.</p> <p>Technology We will use the Interactive Whiteboard to explore fairy tales and related characters, look closely at castles and even perhaps design our own dragons and castles on the screen to print off and use in our play!</p>
<p>Expressive Arts and Design</p>	<p>As we explore our new topic, we will think about how we can use different media and materials to create castles, dragons, shields, armour and much more! We will make our own dragon eggs and create dragon footprints. We will also continue to explore musical instruments and think about how we can use them to support our storytelling.</p>
<p>Personal, social and emotional development</p>	<p>The children are continuing to develop positive relationships as their friendships grow and new children are welcomed into our nursery family. Our older children are already working well as 'buddies' for our new starters! As a group, we will continue to talk about 'good choices' as we experience different events and situations. On a more individual basis, the children will take on small roles and responsibilities within the nursery setting to help them to recognise their value and importance within the group. For e.g. by acting as 'Tidy Up Tiger' for a designated area or activity and getting a 'Roar of applause' for their efforts!</p>
<p>Physical development</p>	<p>The children will continue to take part in a weekly PE session, with lots of great activities that link to both our Talk for Writing texts and our Dragon topic! We also hope to be lucky enough to access a dance activity every week to support our music and movement development.</p>
<p>Harrier Value</p>	<p>Each half term, the children will explore one of our Harrier Values. This half term, we have two! These are Honesty and Responsibility. The children will be encouraged to think about what these values mean and how they can be represented both at nursery and in the wider environment.</p>

Subject	How you can support your child's learning at home? Topic: Why do leaves go crispy?
English (Literacy)	Please continue to read with your child every day. This will support their phonic knowledge and build a broad and rich vocabulary, which will support their reading comprehension. Please use the Tapestry app to share your child's favourite stories from home- perhaps they could retell a story that they know well, or could talk a little about a favourite character or event?
Communication and Language	Encourage your child to experiment with sounds- what sounds can they create using both their mouths, bodies and other items? How can these sounds be changed? As the weather changes and we slowly creep towards the spring, what can you hear as you go for a walk outside? Encourage your child to talk about the things that they see, hear, feel and do so that they link words and experiences to help to support their understanding of vocabulary.
Mark making/writing	Support your child to engage with meaningful mark making as they help you by 'writing' shopping lists or writing messages. Give them lots of opportunities to mark make in a variety of ways. At nursery they particularly enjoy using water and brushes or chalk outdoors, as well as lots of messier play such as gloop (cornflour and water) and wet sand. Give them a twig and see what patterns, lines and swirls appear- but don't forget to ask them what they have 'drawn' or 'written'!
Maths	<p>To help your child with number recognition, you could put a number line in their bedroom and practise the numbers together in the morning whilst getting ready for school or before bedtime. To practise using fingers to represent numbers, you can sing simple number songs at home. For example, '5 Little Speckled Frogs', '5 Little Monkeys', '10 Green Bottles', '1,2,3,4,5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive'.</p> <p>On a trip out, count the steps back to the car together- try missing a number out and see if your child/ren can fill in the gap.</p> <p>Shape, space and measure- Look at shapes in the environment and talk about the differences and similarities. How do you know it's a triangle? Explore some simple measuring activities when cooking, gardening or doing jobs around the home.</p>

<p>Understanding the World</p>	<p>Perhaps you could do a little windowsill planting at home, for e.g. cress. Look together at changes over time and think about what the plant needs to grow and develop. Do a little experimenting with the bath toys to explore floating and sinking!</p>
<p>Expressive Arts and Design</p>	<p>Encourage your child/ren to explore lots of different media and materials - both natural/found objects as well as anything you may have in the craft box at home. Support them to think about how they could use or combine the materials to craft and create. What have they made? Why did they choose those materials or colours?</p>
<p>Personal, social and emotional development</p>	<p>Encourage your child to take on little tasks at home to help to support their growing independence, such as helping to set the table or tidy away after an activity. Support them to keep 'having a go' at something they might find tricky, such as putting on their coat or shoes. This will really help them to develop confidence in their own abilities and give them the courage to keep on trying.</p>
<p>Physical development</p>	<p>Support gross motor skills -Ensure your children have the opportunity to take part in different physical activities such as catching and throwing balls or using apparatus at the park. You can further support your child's understanding of their own body by talking about changes that they notice after exercising, for example, feeling hot, sweaty, thirsty or 'out of breath'. Continue to give lots of opportunities to develop fine motor skills - using tools to make marks or engage in sensory/messy play that allows them to squash, squeeze, grip and pinch (such as playdoh, sand or gloop). Our new children will be learning our 'magic coat' trick soon to help to support independence when dressing.</p>
<p>Harrier Value</p>	<p>Honesty and Responsibility- please share your examples of how your child/ren demonstrates these values at home!</p>