



Viaduct Federation of Schools

FS1 Spring 2 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parent/Carer

We are very pleased with how well the children are exploring and learning in Pre-School. They are enthusiastic about the activities we provide but more importantly they are beginning to come up with their own ideas to enhance their learning. Our September intake have really welcomed and supported the new children who started in January which has been a pleasure to see. Our topic this half term is 'Growing'.

Foundation Stage 1

Team



Miss Arcscott
Parrot and Toucan
Teacher



Mrs Rawal
FS1 TA



Mrs Beale
FS1 TA



Mrs Khurshid
FS1 TA

Subject Overviews

Writing

We will provide opportunities to develop fine and gross motor skills. There will be activities that will strengthen children's muscles ready for writing. We will be focusing on holding writing equipment correctly using our nip, flip and grip technique. We will practise sitting smartly and have the opportunity to mark make using a wide range of media including crayons, paint, markers, pencils and through our messy play. Lots of the children have started to show an interest in writing their own names and some sounds. When the children begin their phonics lessons they will be encouraged to use their mark-making skills to practise writing the sounds in different ways with different resources available.

Reading

We will share stories related to our topic this half term. Some of the stories we will read together are Everywhere Babies, Once they were Giants, How does a Tadpole Grow, Teeny Weeny Tadpole, and Up and Down and Around. We will also be continuing our environmental phonics learning where we will listen to familiar sounds around us, create sounds using instruments and our voices, and start to identify the initial sounds in words. Children will be encouraged to retell the stories that we have been learning through role play. Towards the end of the half-term the children moving to Reception will be starting the Read Write Inc. programme to begin their phonics journey.

Maths

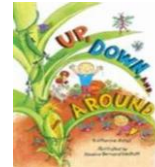
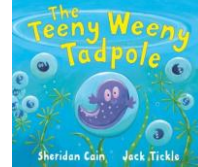
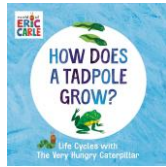
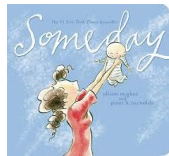
In Maths, we will continue to practise counting numbers 0-6. We will explore numbers through their different representations, 1:1 correspondence and subitising. We will compare numbers to 6 by saying which has more or less when looking at quantities. We will start to look at writing numbers and solving real world maths problems. The children will also be introduced to measure by looking at height, length and capacity. The children will learn about and explore balancing scales, containers and measuring equipment as a class and individually.



Mrs Presswell
FS1 TA

Topic

Our topic this half term is 'Growing'. Through stories and rhymes, we will explore lots of things that grow. We will be looking at life cycles of living things and making comparisons with ourselves. In the outside area we will be growing plants to explore how plants grow and what they need to survive. We will also look at the life cycle of a frog through stories and small world play. Through stories and timelines, we will also look at how human grow through different life stages, relating this back to our own families and experiences.



Personal Social and Emotional

Children will develop an awareness of feelings of others through stories. They will continue to make good friendships. We are still practising how to take turns and share, using words to sort out any issues. The children are becoming confident to talk about their own ideas and share these with their peers. We will be ensuring we look after and care for the plants and vegetables, which will develop our sense of responsibility.

Communication and Language

The children will be introduced to new words associated through our stories and topic. We will encourage the children to join in with familiar stories at story time. We will ask how and why questions to encourage them to extend their sentences and come up with their own explanations. We will continue to build up our repertoire of songs, stories and rhymes. We will continue to develop our talk to organise our play especially in the small world and role play area.

Physical Development

In our PE lessons, the children will continue to develop their movement skills by practising moving in different ways (crawling, slithering, jumping, skipping etc). We will continue to develop climbing, catching, and kicking skills through continuous provision. Please make sure that the children are suitably dressed on their PE day on Monday e.g. girls wearing leggings or trousers. The children will continue to practise their mark making, gross and fine motor skills through continuous provision.

Understanding the World

Children will continue to use their senses to explore the world around them including planting seeds and looking after our plants. Children will continue to develop their vocabulary to describe the world around them. Children will begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. We will explore the life cycles of frogs and plants, and take part in investigations on how plants grow. Children will explore using technology by using the interactive board, cameras, torches, light projector and BeeBots.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will listen to stories and develop our imaginative play around these, we will create our props to act out stories. Children will continue to build up their vocabulary in describing different textures. We will be learning to move rhythmically to music as well as playing simple rhythms on instruments and learning how sounds can be changed. In the creative area children will be encouraged to draw with more detail and develop their own creative ideas and what materials to use to express them.

Parent Reminders:

Please make sure that you label every item of clothing to help the children keep track of their belongings.

Upcoming Events in Spring 2

- Thursday, 5th March - World Book Day. We will be basing the day around the book *Tilda Tries Again* by Tom Percival. Children can dress in World Book Day related costumes.
- Friday, 20th March - Comic Relief. We will be holding a non-uniform day
- Friday, 27th March - Last day of term
- Children can bring in pictures of themselves as babies, toddlers and children to add to our Pre-School timeline

BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

Did you know we now have a Facebook page?

We have created a Facebook page which will show any news and events across the Viaduct Federation of schools, it is titled 'The Bushfield and Wyvern Viaduct Federation of Schools'. Like us and keep up to date with any fun school events and news!



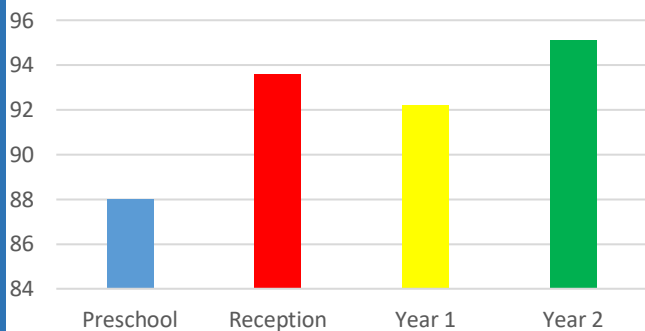


ATTENDANCE REVIEW
SPRING TERM

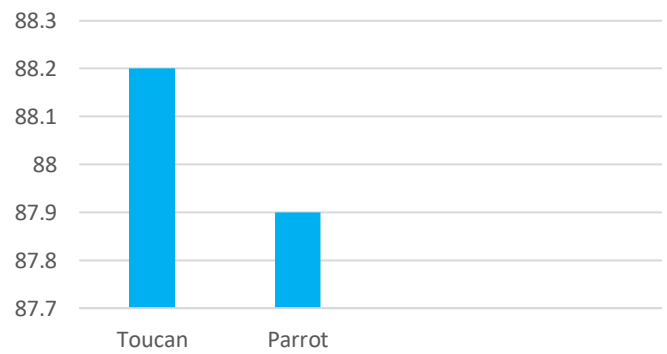
107 possible days this year

As you know, pupil attendance is very important and is a focus on schools from both the government and the local authority. In terms of our drive to raise awareness, please see below our classes' average attendance. Thank you for all of your efforts to get the children in everyday. Please can we encourage you to keep it up for the next half term.

Whole School Attendance



Preschool Attendance



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| <p>100% attendance 72 days of learning</p> <p>0 days absent</p> <p>EXCELLENT High attendance leads to high achievement and a greater chance of success – Well done!</p> | <p>97% attendance 70 days of learning</p> <p>2 days absent</p> | <p>95% attendance 68 days of learning</p> <p>4 days absent</p> | <p>90% attendance 65 days of learning</p> <p>7 days absent</p> <p>CONCERNING Poor attendance makes it harder to progress and limits opportunities for success</p> | <p>85% attendance 61 days of learning</p> <p>11 days absent</p> | <p>80% attendance 58 days of learning</p> <p>14 days absent</p> <p>SERIOUS CONCERN Very poor attendance seriously impacts on education and reduces life chances!</p> |
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Be the best you can be.

