



Mersey Park Half Term Overview

Autumn 1 - Foundation 2

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term will be about getting to know each other and our new environment. The children will familiarise themselves with their new class and routines. We will be finding out about each other's families and will bring in a photograph to talk about. We will talk about what we can do and share this with our friends. We will also talk about what we did when we were babies and what we can do now. Children will be introduced to Mersey Bear and his rules which keep us happy and safe when we are in school. Our Mersey Park values; Be Nice, Work Hard and Never Give up will also be introduced to the children.



Physical Development

Through our carefully planned linked provision activities each morning we will offer children activities to develop and refine their small motor skills. In our outdoor environment we will provide open-ended materials such as planks, blocks and crates to encourage practise of physical skills like lifting, carrying, pushing, pulling, constructing, stacking and climbing. We will also encourage the children to become increasingly independent with their personal hygiene.



Literacy

We will begin to teach the children to read sounds and blend them into words through daily phonics and reading practice sessions. The children will bring the sounds they have learnt each week home on a keyring along with any tricky words. We ask that you practise these regularly at home. We will use the formation phrases from the Little Wandle Phonics Programme to teach the children how to form capital and lower-case letters correctly.



Communication and Language

'Pumpkin Soup' by Helen Cooper will be a stimulus for many activities. These will include making pumpkin soup and retelling the story in our role play and small world areas. Lots of opportunities will be provided to share good quality children's literature through regular story times. The children will also have daily opportunities to take a book home to share with their family.



Mathematics

We will provide lots of opportunities for the children to count objects, actions and sounds, developing their ability to match one number name to each. We will play games and sing songs and rhymes that involve counting. We will provide collections of autumnal objects for the children to compare, teaching them to use the correct vocabulary: 'more than', 'less than', 'fewer' and 'the same as'.



Understanding the World

Children will be encouraged to talk about members of their immediate family and will be invited to bring photographs of their family into school to talk about. We will share books which develop the children's awareness of different families. Harvest time will provide an opportunity for the children to find out more about the natural world. We will talk about how different vegetables grow and make vegetable soup.



Expressive Arts and Design

Children will have opportunities to explore and mix colours. They will create skin tones for a self-portrait and mix red and yellow to make orange, to paint a pumpkin. Through enhancements in our role play and small world areas which link to stories which have been shared, children will develop storylines in their play. We will also be enjoying learning new songs and rhymes.

