



ST. MARY MAGDALENE

C OF E SCHOOL

WOOLWICH CAMPUS

*Excellence through innovation,
founded in faith since 1840.*

FEDERATION EXECUTIVE CO-HEADTEACHERS

Mrs Claire Harrison and Mrs Victoria Wainwright

HEADTEACHER

Mrs Diane Savva-Brown

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

Mrs Ranj Badesha

Friday 26th April, 2024

Welcome back after the Easter break; we hope that you had a lovely holiday and you are looking forward to an exciting summer term! It was amazing to see all the children settle back smoothly into their class routine and start the term off with wonderful eagerness and enthusiasm to play, explore and learn.



What's in the Garden and Under the Sea: The children will be moving onto new topics this term. In the first half-term, they will be exploring everything they can find in a garden or their natural environment. They will look at plants and learn about the different parts of a plant. In addition, they will be immersed in watching the life cycle of a plant as they will be doing some planting and watching how seeds grow. Furthermore, as we will be reading "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" the children will have a great opportunity to watch live caterpillars grow and make cocoons and finally change into butterflies. Based on our core book, we will be encouraging children to retell stories and even use their great imagination to make their own stories. We will also be learning about minibeasts and tiny creatures that live in the garden. In the second part of the term, we will be reading "The Rainbow Fish" and we will be engaging children in lots of activities to enable them learn and visualise the magical sea life that takes place under the sea.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development: Children will continue to develop their sense of themselves as unique and special. They will be encouraged to develop their independence in dressing and undressing and putting their coats on. We will support children to continue to share resources and understand emotions and talk about them. Also, we will discuss the importance of treating animals and little creatures kindly. Watching videos of animals that live under the sea, we will talk about pollution and how our actions can affect the marine life. Children will engage in circle times where they can talk about fear of insects and how we can deal with it.

Literacy: As we try to immerse children in the garden topic in the first half of the term, we will share some non-fiction books during our daily literacy session. This is to enhance children's learning about insects, plants and their habitat. Later on in the term, we will be encouraging children to create their own stories supporting them with language and ideas. Opportunities for children to practice mark-making will be available daily in the indoor and outdoor provisions. Also, children will be encouraged daily to write/trace over the letters of their name.



Reading: Please continue to read with your child the book they have been given from the nursery. If you would like to have another book please don't hesitate to ask a member of staff. Reading and the 'love of reading' is so important and will set your children up for life. They will learn to recognise and read their name through self-registration.

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Physical Development:

As the weather gets warmer the children will be physically active outside on a daily basis. They will be given the opportunity to play a variety of hand ball games, climb and move through, along, down different apparatus and continue to develop their finer motor skills by exploring sand and water. PE and dance takes place throughout the week. Please make sure your child wears suitable shoes/trainers with velcro fasteners. Please note for your own child's safety, hooped earrings are not to be worn. Only studs are allowed as stated in the school prospectus.



Mathematics:

In Maths the children will be learning to sequence events of time such as a day at school, their favourite nursery rhymes and stories involving the days of the week and months of the year. The children will still be practicing number knowledge and developing understanding of one more and one less. They will be looking at patterns on some minibeasts and creating our own. Children will also be learning about the composition of numbers up to 5 such as three plus two makes a total of five.



Understanding the world:

The children will explore and investigate mini-beasts. They will be able to comment on what they see happening with the real live caterpillars and begin to learn about their life cycle and the changes that take place. The children will also be learning about the season of summer and what changes occur in the environment around them.

Expressive Art & Design:

In the Nursery we love to get messy so this term we will be continuing to do so. The children will experience working with a variety of media and materials as they weave, make 3-D models of mini beasts and explore a range of creative making tasks. They will learn how to select and use resources that will add effects to their work.



Things you can do at home:

Go on a minibeast hunt and explore the wild life in local parks or your garden. Talk about what they can find and encourage them to learn the names of insects and the flowers they can find. Borrow some non-fiction books from the library to learn some interesting facts about minibeasts.

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Please continue to support your child with writing their names, the letters of the alphabet and numbers one to five.

We are working with the children to write their names. Names should be written with a capital letter at the start and all other letters should be lower case. To help, it will be best if they are holding their pencil near the tip as shown in Fig 4.

Diagrams showing developing pencil grasp



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3



Fig 4

Reminders:

- 1) We will be visiting The Greenwich Eco Ecology Park on Tuesday 9th July from 9:15-1:30pm. It is a lovely memorable trip where the children will be able to look at plants, flowers, mini beasts and very special birds. More information about this trip will be handed out soon.
- 2) Please label your child's coat & book bag clearly.
- 3) Please also remember that jewellery should not be worn by your child whilst attending nursery. Please note for your own child's welfare, hooped earrings are not to be worn. Only studs are allowed. No necklaces should be worn either.

We value your continued support from home with your child's learning and we are always available to speak with you if you have any concerns or issues that you wish to discuss about your child.

Kindest Regards,
Mrs Turner and Mrs Rao

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