



Me and My Community

Acorn Class – Autumn 1

Overview

Welcome to school! This term is all about settling your child into school, getting them familiar with rules and routines and to help them become confident so that they can feel safe, happy and secure. Therefore, our learning will be based around ourselves and our community. We will explore the school grounds and find out about all the people in school who are there to help us. We will explore how each one of us is special and unique and how everyone's family is different. We will take part in practical activities to support us in building new friendships and explore what makes a good friend. Finally, we will also find out about people in the community who help us, including doctors, nurses, and the emergency services.



Vocabulary

Auntie, community, cousin, doctor, emergency services, family, firefighters, friend, grandparents, help, key workers, nurse, paramedic, police, rules, teacher, uncle

Memorable Experiences

This term, we will have visits from the emergency services; ambulance, police and fire brigade. They will talk to us about how they can help us and we will explore inside the vehicles!

PRIME AREAS

Communication and Language

- Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important
- Learn new vocabulary
- Use new vocabulary through the day
- Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said to them
- Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences
- Describe events in some detail
- Develop social phrases
- Engage in story times
- Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding
- Listen carefully to rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound
- Learn rhymes, poems and songs

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- See themselves as a valuable individual
- Build constructive and respectful relationships
- Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others
- Show resilience and perseverance in the face of a challenge
- Manage their own personal hygiene

Physical Development

Gross Motor Skills

- Revise and refine the fundamental movement skills they have already acquired (walking, jumping, running, hopping, climbing)
- Progress towards a more fluent style of moving, with developing control and grace

Fine Motor Skills

- Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently (paintbrushes, scissors, knives/forks/spoons)
- Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good sitting posture when sitting at a table or on the floor



SPECIFIC AREAS

Literacy

Your child will start their daily phonics lessons in their first week at school! At Willow, we use Read, Write, Inc to teach your child how to read and write. They will bring home a phonics book to help them practise the sounds taught each day. They will also start to bring home reading books, which need to be read daily.

- Read individual letters by saying the sounds for them
- Blend sounds into words, so that they can read short words made up of known letter-sound correspondences
- Re-read these books to build up their confidence in word reading, their fluency and their understanding and enjoyment

Mathematics

- Count objects, actions and sounds
- Subitise - be able to say how many there are (up to 5) without counting each one in turn
- Recognise some numerals and match to quantities
- Explore the composition of numbers
- Select, rotate and manipulate shapes to develop spatial reasoning skills

Understanding the World

- Talk about members of their immediate family and community
- Name and describe people who are familiar to them

Expressive Arts and Design

- Develop storylines in their pretend play
- Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings

Reminders

- Your child needs to have their book bag, a water bottle and their PE kit in school every day
- Your child's learning journey will be available for you to see through Tapestry. Please comment on these observations if you wish!
- Complete WOW vouchers for anything that has made your heart burst with PRIDE!
- Home work activities will be posted on Tapestry for your child to complete – this will include phonics practise, daily reading and discussion about our topic
- Dojo points will be given to your child when they follow the PRIDE values – keep a look out for messages home about your child's super behaviour!
- Mrs Simmonds is available to talk to you at any point – communication in the Early Years is vital, so please pop in if you need to
- Our learning partners in Acorn class this year are Miss P (all day Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) and Mrs Tanner (Monday morning, all day Wednesday/Thursday)
- We are also welcoming Miss Spencer to the Early Years Team this term – she is a trainee teacher and will be with us until the end of November

We cannot wait for a wonderful first term with your children!

The Early Years Team

