

Pre-School - Cluster Sheet

Spring Term 1

2024



2nd January – 8th February

What are we going to be learning?

Over the past term, we have spent time building confidence and have also begun to support age appropriate independence, by means of dressing and undressing. These core skills are important for 'school readiness. This term, we shall be nurturing resilience, another tool which children need to learn to help them navigate tricky situations. The more that children are able to manage on their own, the more they internalise the message that they are strong and capable. When children have the skills and confidence to confront and work through problems, they are more likely to take healthy risks, are curious and creative and don't fear of falling short of expectations. This in turn, helps them to reach their long-term goals and resolve problems independently.

How to support learning at home:

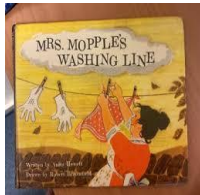
We all want to make sure that are children are happy and will try and shelter them from upset and disappointment. However, experiencing a little bit of disappointment can help your child learn that upset doesn't last long and can be overcome. Reframe challenges as short-term problems and opportunities for learning. Support your child by encouraging them to come up with a possible solution to the problem. Tell stories or talk about times when you have overcome a problem by persevering or having a go and how this made you stronger as a result. And praise those times that your child has attempted something opposed to succeeding. This in turn will send the message that it is having a go that is important.

Background Artist: Andy Goldsworthy



We shall be continuing to explore the work of Andy Goldsworthy. His artwork consists of sculptures, photography and land art, created from natural materials. Over the coming weeks, we will use resources found on our walks in the woods, to make our own masterpieces. We shall also explore repeating patterns.

Focus Text: Mrs Mopple's Washing Line by: Anita Hewitt



This half term, we shall be encouraging the children to look more closely at the pictures within the story, using them as clues to what might be about to happen. We shall also be pointing to each word as we read, to develop an early understanding that print moves across a page from left to right.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moA-PL2v4lg>

Focus Rhyme: The North Wind Doth Blow



Background Music: Chinese Dragon Dance Music



This piece of music will be used to provoke discussions around Chinese New Year, in particular the dragon dance. It features Tom Toms, so, we shall be exploring drums and will be learning to tap a short rhythm.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KbHByMgkcBE>

Other Information:

Children in the early years are now more digitally savvy than ever before. The use of digital devices is commonplace with apps like YouTube Kids becoming a destination of choice for 72% of children aged 3-4 years, according to a recent Ofcom report. Screen use can have a number of benefits for children, however, its use also comes with a host challenge, including the impact on young children being able to control their emotions, displacement of activities that promote social interactions and a risk of exposure to inappropriate content.

Internet Matters provides a list of practical tips to help both young children and their parents, to have a safer experience and get the best out of the digital world that we now find ourselves in. Below is a link to a short video about staying safe online. You will also find a link to a story aimed at young children called 'Digi Duck' which aims to educate children about online safety.

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories/>
<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/org/0-5/>

Events, trips, visits, visitors to support this cluster of learning and any other notable dates:

Week beg 1/1	Week beg 8/1	Week beg 15/1	Week beg 22/1	Week beg 29/1	Week beg 5/2	Week beg 12/2
Monday – New Year's Day	Monday	Monday	Monday – Forest School	Monday	Monday	Monday – Half Term
Tuesday - Inset Day	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday – Half Term
Wednesday - First Day Back	Wednesday – Forest School	Wednesday - Library	Wednesday	Wednesday - Library	Wednesday – Forest School	Wednesday - Half Term
Thursday	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday – Half Term
Friday	Friday - Library	Friday – Forest School	Friday - Library	Friday – Forest School	Friday - Library	Friday - Half Term