

Curriculum News - Queen Eleanor Nursery - Autumn 2009

Personal, Social and Emotional

We will start this term working with our existing children to make our new children's first experience of nursery positive and happy. We will be looking at working together in harmony, respecting each other's space and the right of all to share the nursery activities. We remind ourselves of these aims daily with our Nursery rap and the use of group activities, puzzles and games.

We will endeavour to improve our social skills through the use of Time to Talk and encouraging the children to think about how they feel and how to react.

Communication, Language and Literacy

We will spend this term learning to share and enjoy stories together, looking initially at Nursery Rhymes, Eid, Farmer Duck, The Enormous Turnip, The Three Billy Goats Gruff and the story of Rama and Sita. Later we will enjoy the Firework story, Patrick and the Rocket, space, Autumn poems, the story of St. Andrew, Hanukkah and Christmas.

We will be starting to learn our letter sounds using the Jolly Phonics songs, group reading and visiting the library. We are going to follow Time to Talk a programme to stimulate and advance the children's listening skills.

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

Our numeracy focus will start with looking at number rhymes and counting with associated activities appropriate to the rhymes.

After half term we will continue counting - to increasingly larger numbers, beginning sums, colour collections, starting adding and counting a number from a larger group.

Throughout the term we will be encouraging the children to start recognising numerals and show the numbers on their fingers

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

We will start the term making vegetable soup noticing the change from hard raw vegetables to soft cooked vegetables and then threshing, winnowing and grinding wheat to flour.

We will be looking at the history of bridges using the rhyme 'London Bridge', different homes and using our new whiteboard.

All year we will be taking part in the Forest Schools Programme working on various projects out in the school grounds.

Physical Development

During our hall time the children will start by practising stopping and starting, developing our spatial awareness and making bridges. Later we will be jumping and learning some traditional dancing. We will also work regularly with the parachute including a Christmas parachute story. In the nursery environment the children will be constructing with boxes, planks and material, chopping, grating, cutting and stirring to make soup, practising handwriting patterns and brain gym exercises.

Creative Development

During our art sessions we will be making characters for a nursery rhyme board, firework pictures, Diwali lamps, calendars, Christmas cards, pop up candles, tablemats and tree decorations. All term we will be practising our cutting and accurate sticking skills.

In music we will be commencing the Teaching Foundation Music sessions.

In cooking we will be making Turnip Soup, Eid biscuits and Diwali sweets amongst other things.

We are also going to be practising the gross motor movements needed for writing through craft and singing activities.