



GEORGE STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Where Learning Comes Alive"

In the Foundation Stage at George Street, we aim to create an engaging, broad and fulfilling curriculum which follows the children's interests and builds on prior knowledge and understanding. Our planning is led by the children's interests, development and needs, including any relevant celebrations and changes in the seasons.

Communication and Language

The use of talk plays a large part in our learning in Reception.

Children will be encouraged and supported to engage in one to one, small group and class discussions.

Many sessions will be purely talk based and speech will be modelled daily to children in order for them to learn how to apply tenses and key vocabulary.

Children will be encouraged to extend their vocabulary and responses further by using words such as "and" and "because".

They will be encouraged to use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences as well as using talk to organise and clarify their thinking.

Frequent repetition of core nursery rhymes will be a key part of our daily routine in order to build understanding of repeated refrains, rhyming, alliteration and rhythm.

Physical Development PE will be on Tuesdays

Children will be exploring in the outdoor area and building their gross motor skills. They will have opportunities to balance, climb, throw, catch and ride bikes or scooters. They will have the chance to practise negotiating space and obstacles as well as playing aiming games.

There will be a focus on building fine motor control this term. There will be daily hand control activities as well as additional opportunities to practise using a variety of tools successfully such as scissors. Children will be encouraged to hold pens and pencils correctly using a secure grip. There will be many opportunities to draw, colour, write and paint so children can build the strength in their fingers, arms and shoulders.

Children will be taught about the importance of self-care and hygiene. Regular hand washing will be encouraged throughout key parts of the day and after toileting as part of our daily routine.

Children will be encouraged to independently use the toilet, and build their independence of dressing and undressing. For example, putting on their shoes and coats and practising doing their own zips and buttons.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term the focus will be on establishing routines and expectations, getting to know one another and building strong and trusting relationships.

We will focus heavily on our school values of "Ready, Respect, Safe" and we will learn about how we can show these values in our everyday lives, especially at school.

The children will be encouraged to initiate conversations with others and join in turn taking. Group activities will encourage children to communicate with others and build friendships with peers.

A focus will be on building confidence and independence. Children will be encouraged to be responsible for their belongings as well as initiating their own learning during choosing times.



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Literacy

Children will share and re-tell stories using puppets or toys. The children will begin the early stages of reading and writing.

Our curriculum incorporates core books and nursery rhymes as a tool to build a love of reading and fully immerse children in storytelling whilst building their communication and language skills.

Children will learn pure sounds and how to blend and segment them to read and write words. Once we start learning the sounds, we will send them home with some tips and games you can play with your child to support letter recognition and word building.

The children will be given their first reading book to take home. Some books will have no words at the beginning. Please encourage your child to look carefully at what is happening on each page and talk about it in sentences e.g. “Mum is not happy with the dog because the dog is very muddy.”

Understanding the World

Children will be learning about the season of Autumn.

Forest school will take place every Friday where the children will be encouraged to observe, find out about and identify features of the environment. It would be advisable to wear trousers and you are welcome to provide puddle suits/overalls for your child and bring in Wellies for our Wellie rack.

Children will also be learning about celebrations around the world and sharing ideas and discussions about past and present.

Maths

Maths is taught through a range of practical activities and games through which children will become more familiar with numbers, shapes and signs during the year.

The children will play counting games and sing number songs together. They will begin to measure and compare objects that we see every day and use words such as: bigger, smallest, circle, straight to describe them.

They will be focusing on subitising amounts which is when they can quickly recognise how many there are without counting. They will do this through the use of familiar arrangements of quantities such as dice, dominoes and Numicon patterns.

They will solve simple practical problems together and try to work out what they might do next.

Frequent repetition of core nursery rhymes will be a key part of our daily routine to support knowledge and understanding of number and counting.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will be given many opportunities to explore textures and colours in their learning environment.

Children will be exploring sounds and instruments in their play, experimenting with beat, rhythm and volume. They will listen to music attentively, move to and talk about music.

Construction resources will be readily available for children to build with a purpose in mind and build props to support their role-play.

Important Dates

Thursday 4th September - First day back

Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October - Parent's Evening

Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October - Half term

Learning Journals - Tapestry

We will be using Tapestry as our online learning journal provider.

Tapestry allows you to login with a secure username and password so you can view all your children's observations, photographs and videos. You can like and comment on observations that we add for your child and it's also possible for you to add your own observations. Your comments and own observations will allow us to find out about which activities your child really enjoyed and the learning they get up to at home.

- We will set you up using your email address and once this has been done, you will receive an activation email from which you can set up your own password to login with. You will also be asked to set up a 4-digit PIN which you can use on the Tapestry app to quickly log back in once you've initially logged in.
-Once we have set you up with an account you will be able to login using any web browser from tapestryjournal.com or by downloading the Tapestry app from the Play or App store.

Suggestions for activities at home

- Encouraging your child to paint, colour and draw on a large and small scale using a variety of mark makers, e.g. crayons, felt tips, floor chinks, sticks in the sand pit etc.
- Supporting them to recognise and write their name. E.g. tracing, copying and writing the letters from memory. Please remember – capital letters only at the beginning
- Playing games with numbers, cards, dice and dominoes.
- Encouraging them to attempt their own uniform in the morning; particularly, shoes, socks tights and jumpers. Although buttons can be tricky, we would encourage children to try and have a go by themselves.
- The following website provides some useful phonics tips, including audio clips for the correct pronunciation of the sounds: <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/forhome/reading-owl/experthelp/phonics-made-easy>