

# FARTHINGHOE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Main Road, Farthinghoe, Brackley, Northants, NN13 5PA.



## Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

Each term I will send home a brief newsletter outlining the learning that will take place in the seven areas of the curriculum. In addition to this, you will also receive a school newsletter every other week.

The EYFS and Key Stage 1 topic/theme this term is 'My Wonderful World'. However, this is a flexible plan and the children's own interests and ideas are also valued and developed, to ensure that learning is motivating and interesting for each learner.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During the first half term the children will get to know the routines and 'rules' of the classroom and the school. We will be encouraging them to play and work together cooperatively and be aware of each other's feelings and needs.

### Communication and Language

The listening skills of the children will be the focus of the first term. They will be encouraged to listen attentively to each other and adults and to take part in whole class activities. The children will be encouraged to talk to other individuals, adults and children in the school. They will also be encouraged to ask questions, to think critically about the world around them.

### Physical Development

The children will begin to understand the importance for good health of physical exercise, and a healthy diet, and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe. They will be encouraged to manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully, including dressing and going to the toilet independently.

### Literacy

The children will be reading a range of rhymes, poems and stories based around the theme and topics of the term. They will have a fifteen minute word level focus each day which will focus on listening activities, essential for good word building skills.

Reading - Each week your child will be given four books which they will be encouraged to share with us at school and with you at home. These books can be changed more frequently as the term progresses but the essential part of this early stage of learning to read is to enjoy the story, become familiar with the text, look carefully at the illustrations and talk about the book. Your child will have a reading record in which we will record what they have read and any comments or observations they make about their reading. The reading record should be kept in their book bag.

### Mathematics

The children will be counting and ordering numbers in a range of contexts, using number in role play and solving simple problems. They will be encouraged to use the vocabulary of addition and subtraction in all areas of learning. They will also make models using 2D and 3D shapes on a variety of scales. As part of a whole school focus on embedding key maths skills, the children will have a 'Numeracy Passport' which should be kept in their book bags (as this is a new school initiative we will be sending further details about the passport in a separate letter).



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## Understanding the World

The children will talk about themselves, make comparisons and identify differences and similarities. They will learn about the school family, talk about their own family and the community and wider country in which they live. They will begin to be aware of the beliefs of others within their community. They will use technology to support and extend their learning.

## Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be given opportunities to work with a range of materials to create patterns and designs linked to the topic. They will explore colour mixing and create representations of themselves. They will listen to music, sing songs and have the opportunity to create patterns using percussion instruments.

## Snack Time

As outlined in our settling in booklet the children will be offered a mid-morning snack of a fruit or vegetable. In addition they will also be offered milk. If you do not want your child to have milk, would you please let me, Mrs Deeley or Mrs Irving know.

## Home Visits

I would like to thank you for allowing us the opportunity of home visits. This is always a very valuable exercise, giving us an insight into your child's life and daily routines, enabling us to develop a more rounded picture of each child, benefitting both them and us in our day to day interactions.

## Parents Meeting

As part of the settling in process, I will be holding an information session on how we teach phonics and reading. This usually takes place in week three of the term on a Friday afternoon at 2.30pm. I will confirm this with a separate letter with the date and time etc.

Best Wishes,

Catherine Farrell  
Senior Teacher