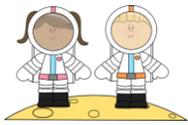


# Spring Term 2017 Newsletter - Early Years Foundation Stage Unit

## Topic ~ Moving Through Space Mini Topics ~ Growing and Healthy Bodies



### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

**School Values Friendship and Forgiveness** - This term we are focussing on our likes and dislikes, developing our understanding of our feelings, and how we respond to events. How do we respond to different events and experiences? We will also be evaluating the activities and interests we enjoy, and those that we do not enjoy as much. When playing games we will learn about being a member of a team, a group and a class. What does being a member of a group mean? We are going to be playing a variety of indoor and outdoor games; learning the instructions and rules from these games will support us in devising our own games. How do we become more independent in our learning and behaviour? We are learning to describe our feelings and understand other people's feelings. Helping each other to share and care for our environment both inside our classroom and outside in the world around us. We will link these ideas and activities to Mothering Sunday and Easter, by considering different feelings, the idea of love and who we love.

### Maths

We will continue to have fun with numbers, growing confident counting and working with numbers to 20, and extending our knowledge of numbers above 20. By learning about the seasons, years, months, weeks and days, we will extend our knowledge of time by looking at clocks and learn about the 12 and 24 hour clock. This will be supported by our knowledge of numbers and counting. Our 'Space' role play area will help us in learning to compare a variety of different measurements. We will equate the distance between the planets, and adapt these measurements to everyday life, by using both non-standard and standard measurement. In Spring 2 we will be 'growing' an amount of money, by making and selling 'Smoothies' to our school friends. This activity will support our understanding of money, and in our role play area we will have a 'Café'.

### Understanding the World

Observing the outdoor world will give us an opportunity to look at the changes all around us. We will note the differences and similarities between the changing seasons, how we adapt to these changes and how these changes affect plants and animals too? We will talk about important experiences in our lives, birthdays, the arrival of siblings and when favourite people come to visit us. Alongside books we will use technology to help us to find out answers to our questions. The photographs we take and the sound recordings we make will help us to remember our adventures.

### Physical Development

In our writing we will be practising correct number and letter formation. We will be using our skills to build exciting inside and outside dens. In our play, and in our gymnastics lessons, we will explore different ways of moving while being aware of other people as we run, jump, climb and think of a variety of ways to move. We will also be thinking about risk, by appointing children, with support from an adult, to carry out outdoor risk assessments. They will identify plants and/or hazards that need to be addressed before we can do outdoor activities.

### Communication and Language

We will be sharing our interests with our groups in our weekly 'Expert of the Week' slot. We will continue sharing our Learning Journals with our groups. We will be answering questions; who, what, where, when, and how? Listening carefully to each others answers and responding appropriately. Taking turns to ask questions - Where we have been? Where would we like to visit?

We will be listening to stories from 'Button Moon'; and follow the instructions from 'Self-Destructing Science - Space' taking part in experiments that will help us to understand the universe, stars, and the planets all around us.

### Literacy

While learning about healthy eating we will listen to, and help to write, instructions for making 'Smoothies'.

Along with our Read, Write Inc sessions, we will be continuing to discover the joy of engaging with beautiful books, such as; Once Upon a Northern Sky-which links to our learning about the seasons. A wonderful story called First Day at Bug School, for our youngest children coming into our Early Years Unit. We will also be participating in activities linked to the Chinese New Year - using The Magic Paintbrush as our inspiration.

We will be developing our comprehension skills when retelling stories and events from our own lives. On our Forest Schools Friday, we will continue to practise our writing skills by building up the strength in our upper bodies by crawling, climbing, throwing, weaving, dancing and of course 'Dough Disco'.

### Expressive Arts and Design

We will be listening to 'The Planets' by Gustav Holst, each piece of music describes the planets, and links them to the behaviour and/or activities of the Roman deities that they are named after. This connects with star constellations, we will also look at the Chinese names for the constellations.

Using 'The Magic Paintbrush' as our inspiration we will paint and draw objects that we and the people that we care about would like to have.

Along with building rockets for astronauts we will think about the animals that went into space, and what they would need in their space ships.

For Easter and Mothering Sunday we will make cards that reflect our understanding of these important occasions.

