



## Year R Curriculum Report – Autumn Term A

We are really pleased with how the children are settling into their classes. Please ask your children's key person at any time if there is anything you are unsure about or if you have any worries or concerns about your child's transition.

We will be exploring the topic of Superheroes this half term, as we know that many of your children have a keen interest in this area. We are still on the look-out for some real superheroes – such as police officers, nurses, paramedics and firefighters to visit the children, so if you know of anybody who would be willing and able to come in, please let your child's key worker know.

### Here is an outline of the key objectives we will be covering in each area of learning:

**Personal, social and emotional development:** This is a key area of learning over the next half term, as children make friends with their new class mates and learn to share and take turns with each other. We will explore different ways to demonstrate friendly behaviour, and practice listening to other people's ideas. We will help your children to be confident to share their own ideas, wants and needs with their key worker and their friends. This half term, we will also be focusing on exploring the behavioural expectations of school so that children understand how to stay safe and look after each other and school property.

**Physical Development:** The children will experience a wide range of activities this half term through daily "Funky Fingers" sessions, which promote the skills needed to use one handed tools (scissors, paint brushes etc) and eventually form letters. There will be opportunities to develop large motor skills through PE sessions and daily in the outside environment that involve following instructions and moving around obstacles which promotes a range of movements and spatial awareness. Please bring your child's PE kit into school and leave it on their peg as soon as possible if you have not already done this. Attached to this report is an example of how we form our letters in school; you could try to practise copying some of the letters in your child's name at home **if** you feel that they are ready for this. We will also be discussing some ways to stay safe and healthy, as well as exploring the idea of healthy food.

**Communication and Language:** This area of learning is key to success across the curriculum and we will spend the first part of the term teaching children to listen and concentrate in their key groups. Throughout the day, we will model speaking in sentences and talking about what the children are doing as they play. Alongside this, we will be focusing on responding to two-part instructions, which you could practise at home. We will also be encouraging the children to use "and" or "because" to extend their sentences.

**Literacy:** The teaching of reading will focus on exploring rhyme and alliteration, and telling a story using the pictures in the books. We will be encouraging children to recognise their name in the environment, such as during self-registration, in their key group and on their peg label. We will also be encouraging all children to begin to write their name using the correct letter formation. As children learn the first few phonics sounds (s, a, t, p, i, n) we will encourage them to record the initial sounds as labels on their drawings. Alongside this, the children are encouraged to draw and write as part of their play activities. At this stage in their learning, it is more important for your children to give meaning to the marks that they are making than it is for you to be able to recognise the words yourself.

**Mathematics:** Our mathematical journey will begin by focusing on the idea that numbers identify how many objects are in a set. Without the base understanding that numbers have a meaning, children cannot progress through to more complex mathematical ideas. To develop this concept, we will be exploring the different ways that numbers can be made (for example, that three can be made using three ones, or two and one). To support this learning, please make sure that if you are practising counting at home you are counting real objects, rather than simply counting out loud. We will also be working on recognising the numerals 1 to 5, and introducing the children to positional language such as “next to” “in front of” and “behind”

**Understanding of the world:** As we get to know the children, we will talk within our key groups about our families, and the people who are important to us. In RE this term we will be focusing on Celebrations, beginning by thinking about how we celebrate our birthdays. We will explore the school environment and discuss ways that we can show care for the creatures and environment around us. The children will have the chance to interact with computers, iPads and other age-appropriate technologies.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** There are many opportunities to be imaginative and creative in Year R. The children will begin to build a repertoire of songs and dances, and explore the different sounds of instruments. Through painting and colouring, we will explore what happens when we mix colours and focus on making simple representations of events, people and objects. Within our role-plays, children will play alongside others who are engaged in the same theme and begin to make stories together.

**Home learning challenge:**

Please choose one of the following home learning challenges to complete with your children and photograph it or bring it in to show your child’s key worker. This half term, our home learning challenges are:

- 1) Create a picture of your favourite superhero, and describe why you like them.
- 2) Make a model of a superhero vehicle, complete with at least one special power!
- 3) Choose who your ‘real life superhero’ is, and find a way to thank them.



**Reminders:**

PE kit

Please bring in a named PE kit for your children to use. Please practise dressing and undressing at home so that your children can change as independently as possible.

Family photos

As part of our key worker approach, we celebrate special people in your children’s lives. If you have not already done so, please could you bring in one (or several) photos of your child’s special people to be displayed in their key group area.

## A Guide to Setting up at Home

### **Introduction**

Tapestry is the personal online Learning Journey which records photos and observations of your children's learning experiences during their first year in school. You will have secure access (via email address and password) to your children's Learning Journey and, in addition to viewing our contributions, we encourage you to add to it by uploading photos and comments, or commenting on observations made by us. Any contributions made by you will contribute to their overall end of year assessment and, as you know your children best, we value every upload that you can make.

### **Where do I start?**

You will shortly receive an email inviting you to activate your account and/or update your password. Click the link in this email to set your password. We will be using the email address that you provided when you completed your initial school paperwork. If your email address has changed, you wish you add a second email address, or you do not receive this email by Friday 21 September, please talk to your child's key worker.

Go to <https://tapestryjournal.com> on your computer, or if you can download a free app via the iTunes or Google Play – just search Tapestry Mobile. Login using your email address and the password you set.

### ***Viewing my child's Learning Journey***

Once logged in, you will see your child's observations on your home screen in a list – selecting any one of these will open up the observation for you to look at. You may add comments in the box at the bottom of the observation if you would like to – and remember that every comment helps!

### ***Adding an entry to my child's Learning Journey***

Choose the 'Add Observation' option (or the 'plus' icon on your iPhone/iPad) and add the relevant information in the boxes on screen. Photos and videos may be uploaded by choosing the 'add media' option. When you have saved your observation, you may go back to the home screen at any time by choosing 'home'.

### **Changing your settings**

#### ***On a PC***

At the top right of your screen you will see your name, and selecting this will give you the option to 'Edit Preferences'. Choose this option and you will be presented with a screen giving you the option to change your email address and password. You also have the option to receive an email whenever a new observation is added to your child's Learning Journey – just tick or untick the relevant box if you would like to change this setting.

#### ***On the App***

To change your settings on the app, click the 'cog' button on the right-hand side of the application. This enables you to change password and/or email address.

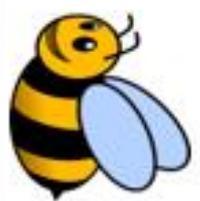
Please do not hesitate to come into school at the end of the day if you would like more assistance with logging in to Tapestry or would like to view your child's learning journey online at school.

### ***Photographs***

As part of their online learning journals, we will photograph your child to evidence their learning. Your child may also appear in the background of other children's photos. Please contact your child's class teacher if you are unhappy with this.

**Let us know how you get on!**

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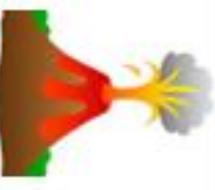
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