



## Year R Curriculum Report – Summer Term B

We are going to use 'Water' as the stimulus for our learning for the next half term. As always, this will follow the childrens' interests and may involve the science of water, such as the water cycle and water filtration, a focus on pirates and mermaids or animals that live under the sea.

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

**Personal, social and emotional development:** We will be exploring why we need rules and how they help us. The children will be encouraged to consider why we should think before acting, and understand that sometimes they will need to wait to get what they want. One of our focus books this half term will be *This is Not My Hat*, which explores the concept of right and wrong, telling the truth and keeping secrets. We will talk about feelings associated with changes and, later in the term, they will meet their new teacher. If you have any concerns about your child during this time, please speak to their current class teacher.

**Physical Development:** During PE, we will be practising various sporting activities. The children will continue to explore their environment outside and, hopefully, with the better weather they will have more opportunities. However, we may still go outside even if it is raining, so please send a coat with your child every day; a fold away coat in their book bag would work well. To develop our fine motor skills, we will continue to practise holding the paper in a sensible position and using a correct pencil grip to form recognisable letters. By the end of the half term, children will begin to be able to write on lines and control the size of their letters. We have uploaded a letter formation booklet to Tapestry – if you would like to practise handwriting at home, please use this as it details how we expect the children to form their letters.

**Communication and Language:** Our key words for this half term are: **discover, unique, responsibility, opinion** and **belonging**. Model and encourage your child to use this language as much as possible at home, and we will be praising children who we hear using it in school. Whilst reading, we will focus on more open-ended questions and encourage the children to retell stories using vocabulary from the book (e.g. 'a mouse took a stroll through the deep, dark wood' rather than just 'a mouse went for a walk'). We will also be continuing to push the use of interesting adjectives in verbal storytelling sessions. During discussion sessions, we will invite children to ask their own questions using a question word (e.g. who, what, when, how, can etc.)

**Literacy:** We will continue to share fiction and non-fiction books and discuss them in depth. During daily phonics sessions, most children will be learning digraphs (two letters which make one sound) and will move on to reading words with more than one syllable. The children will be encouraged to write simple sentences with capital letters, finger spaces and full stops, with correctly formed letters. There are copies of our sound mats and digraphs mats on Twinkl if you wish to practise writing with your child at home.

**Mathematics:** This half term, we are consolidating our understanding of numbers to 10, focusing on mentally recalling numbers that add up to 10 and exploring their subtraction inverses (e.g. if 7 and 3 is 10, 10 minus 7 is 3). We will explore the pattern of the number system, thinking about the value of each digit in a number and how they change as one more is added.

**Understanding the World:** We will also be addressing the idea of belonging, with a focus on transitioning to our new classes and feeling as though we belong there. Linking with our water topic, we will continue to examine the impact that human activity has on the environment and living things, and describe some actions which people in their own community do that help to maintain the area they live in. The children will have opportunities to study, follow and create maps, investigate the adaptations that different underwater animals have and learn about different places around the world. We will also explore basic scientific concepts such as floating, sinking and experimentation.

**Expressive Arts and Design:** The children will be focusing on observational drawing this half term. We will use the story of Austin's Butterfly (available on YouTube) to explore looking like an artist and giving or receiving constructive criticism to improve their work. We will create various role-plays including a stage, a pirate-ship and an aquarium to invite the children to take on imaginative new roles and create stories using props. The children will also have the opportunity to create art using ICT via BusyThings and using an iPad.

### Home learning challenge:

This half term, our home learning challenges are:

**Chat:** Discuss ways that you can help the environment – this could be in relation to water, or perhaps you have a different idea. Record your idea on Tapestry and we will try to commit to it at school as well if we can!

**Play:** Create a scientific experiment revolving around water. This could be about ice, evaporation, melting or many other things. The internet has lots of wonderful ideas, but make sure that you stay safe whilst researching. You could video your experiment, or find a different way to record it, and put your results on Tapestry.

**Read:** Discover a new book about water. This could be from the local library. Share it with someone special and explore any new language that you learn. Can you spot any of our words of the week in the book?



### Reminders

Water bottles: Please ensure that your child has a **named** water bottle in school every day, especially as the weather continues to improve.

Sun-cream and sunhats: Please send your child in with a **named** sunhat and suitable **named** sun-cream that they can apply themselves (roll-on is usually very effective as it limits spillages and book-bag explosions). It is also important that they understand that they must not share sun-cream with anybody else; we discuss this with them at school, but ask that you also remind them at home as well.

End of Year assessment and reports: Several parents raised questions about the end of year assessment process during parents evening. There is no formal assessment that your children will complete – teachers and keyworkers will watch and assess your child by making observations and using tapestry, and assess against the 2021 Early Learning Goals (these can be found online). Your child's class teacher will then create a report exploring your child's progress and attainment relating to these Early Learning Goals. Please remember that this is just a snapshot and that your child has made incredible progress during an extremely challenging year; whether or not they have met the Early Learning Goals, we are exceptionally proud of every single child and will continue to support them to reach their full potential as they continue through the school. If you have any concerns after your child receives their report, there will be an opportunity to meet with their current class teacher at the end of July.