

Marvellous Me

Hello and a warm welcome to this year's pre-school.



Welcome back to the children and parents joining us again after the extended summer break and a super welcome to the children and parents who are joining us for the first time; we hope you have fun!

In pre-school this half-term we are going to be focusing on the topic 'Marvellous Me'. This will focus on children being positive about themselves, experiencing and knowing what they can do, making friends and exploring the setting and various activities. We will focus on 'I can' and a positive outlook. The children will also be talking about their families and exploring their senses. All of this will involve supporting the children settling into pre-school and talking about their families and what they like to do together. We are going to be very busy getting to know each other, making new friends and learning through our play.

Interesting Activities to do Together

- Share stories at home, talk about the pictures; what is happening and what they think might happen next, encourage your child to join in with repeated phrases or words they remember.
- Talk about shapes they see around them and in the real world.
- Encourage your child to show what they can do and note how they are changing; fill in a petal for their flower so that grows too. There will be petals available for you at the entrances.



Useful Information

Please bring your child into pre-school the pre-school area and leave them with a practitioner who will support them to do all their little jobs, such as finding their coat peg, taking off and hanging up their coat, registering with their name card, putting away their water bottle etc. Following that they will be encouraged to wash their hands correctly then they will be settled at an activity.

Please remember that your child/ren may have a little accident and should always be sent in with spare (named) clothes, a carrier bag and wipes to clean them with. Also remember to check this so that there is always enough for each time they attend pre-school.

Morning sessions are from 9.00 am until 12.00 / Afternoon sessions are from 12.20 pm until 3.20 pm. All day sessions also finish at 3.20 pm. **Please remember to be prompt to collect your child/ren as they can sometimes feel concerned or worried when others have gone and they have not. Also at this crucial time we only have ten minutes in which to clean and anti-bacterial spray all equipment and furniture in preparation for the next day.**

Children will have the opportunity to make the most of our outdoor environment so please do send them in with a coat (named) so that they can join in in case of showers, rain and wind.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Support the new children and all the children settling in.
- Talk about how we are similar and different (families, houses, eye/hair colour etc)
- How we can be a good friend.
- Learn each other names & talk about the pre-school rules what they are & why we have them.
- How did ugly duckling feel/how do we feel? Introduce Feeling Faces.
- Introduce growth mindset through 'I can' theme with achievable activities.

Communication and Language

- Support the children with their language and communication skills. Talk about their family photos, different eye colours, likes and dislikes.
- Join in with songs, rhymes & repeated refrains in familiar stories.
- Encourage the children to listen to others in small groups during key time activities.
- Talk about taking turns to listen as well as turns to talk (pass the teddy).
- Encouraging the children to take part in daily Phase One Phonics activities.
- Talking about sounds and letters in names.

Physical Development

- Encouraging/supporting the children to try and put on or do up their own coats.
- Encouraging/supporting the children with their self-help skills e.g. toileting, pouring drinks at snack time etc.
- Daily fine motor/gross motor activities offered to encourage hand eye co-ordination and strengthen hand muscles.
- Wheelie Wednesday.
- Dough Gym, Finger Gym, Name jigsaws.

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Literacy

- Read & talk about the following books throughout this half term: Owl babies, Ugly Duckling, My Family, Two homes.
- Joining in with rhymes and trying new rhymes
- Song bags and story boxes to encourage story telling.
- Talking about different families through story books and circle time.
- Learn about own names through name jigsaws.
- Talk about being a good friend.
- Share and talk about our own pre-school rules together after talking about what makes a good friend.
- Use curiosity box to encourage speaking and listening

Mathematic Development

- Looking for 2D shapes in the environment. Go for a shape walk and take photos of the shapes.
- Build with the blocks taking pictures of the models & what the children say about them.
- Talk about and begin to name some 3D shapes linking them to real life items.
- Use height chart to compare and talk about their own heights using language of taller and shorter; comparing items found in pre-school.
- Encourage the children to take part in daily small group Maths activities.
- Sing and learn early number songs and rhymes.
- Encourage children to join in with counting at the snack table.
- Have numbers to talk about in their play environment.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

- Talk about our families. Who lives in our house?
- Talk about what we look like; the differences and similarities.
- Talk about what we can see, taste, touch and feel.
- Sensory activities.
- Using cameras to take photos of shapes.
- Exploring wax resist with water paints and own names or faces.
- Look for signs of Autumn & collect items to look and touch.
- Use my History book to explore changes and growth in ourselves.

Expressive Art and Design

- Practising our brush strokes painting our faces.
- Making our faces with a variety of materials including pastels, playdough, seeds, natural objects and small parts.
- Learning & performing the action song head shoulders, knees & toes.
- Learning and singing songs linked to theme.
- Act out the story of Owl Babies with story sack.
- Use puppet theatres to recall stories and create new ones.
- Role play; home corner