



EYFS - Spring Term 1

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. We have a very exciting half term planned, including a Chinese New Year celebration, Superhero topic and, of course, a trip to Chester Zoo! Remember to look at our latest news on <https://gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk/> and follow us on twitter at [@GPSOak](https://twitter.com/GPSOak) for weekly updates of what we get up to in Reception Class!

Important Dates:

Friday 7th January- Superhero Day- Children come to school dressed as their favourite superhero.

Friday 14th January- Winter Welly Walk- Bring your wellies to school for a walk around the school grounds.

Wednesday 2nd February-Learning Morning for Parents- Nursery Rhyme Challenge performance.

Monday 7th February- Whole school trip to Chester Zoo.

Phonics

In Phonics we are continuing with Phase 3 and learning the following graphemes-phoneme correspondences -
ng, ch, sh, th, ai, ee, igh, oa, ue, ow, oo/oo, ar, or, ur, er, ear, air and ure.

English

Handwriting

We will be focussing on the correct formation of lowercase letters using the pre-cursive style. This will be introduced through handwriting 'families' of letters e.g. curly caterpillar letters, long ladder letters.

Writing

In English this half term, we will be focusing on reading and writing cvc words and starting to write captions and simple sentences using known grapheme-phoneme correspondences and some irregular high frequency words. Children will experience writing speech bubbles, lists and simple stories based on superhero themed stories.

Through our writing, we will be concentrating holding pencils correctly and forming letters correctly.

Reading

In Reception, we will continue to enjoy daily reading of a range of picture books, non-fiction books and poetry. Children will experience a range of exciting and motivating texts based on our Superhero Theme. We will also be continuing with our Nursery Rhyme Challenge. Reading books, will continue to be changed weekly and book packs will also be changed weekly.

Children will complete weekly guided reading sessions in school in which they will practise blending sounds together to read words.

Communication and Language

Through discussion about celebrations such as Chinese New Year children will have the opportunity to describe events in detail. Children will continue to engage in story times, talk about stories and retell them in their own words. Children will listen carefully and learn rhymes, poems and songs through our Nursery Rhyme Challenge and in music lessons. They will connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives e.g. when talking about favourite foods and meals. Children will articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences e.g. when talking about healthy eating.

Maths

In maths children will be developing a deeper understanding of numbers up to 8, including: more and fewer, two more and two fewer, composition of numbers and combining numbers. Through practical and play activities, indoors and outdoors they will be counting, comparing, ordering, recognising and attempting to record numerals. They will also compare mass and capacity through practical activities. They will compare length/height of objects and order sets of objects.

Expressive Art and Design

Through role-play and small world activities children will use their imaginations to develop storylines

Using a variety of media including: collage, drawing, printing and painting children will create art and design work linked to superheroes including:

Making superhero props, designing recipes and printing with fruits/vegetables

In music children will continue to develop appreciation for different types of music. Children will experience a variety of percussion instruments and learn a set of songs.

Physical Development

Children will be exploring different sorts of movement including Dance linked to Chinese Lion and Dragon dances. Children will continue to develop fundamental movement skills including: rolling, crawling, walking, jumping, hopping, skipping and climbing during outdoor play and through weekly PE lessons.

Children will learn and practise using a range of equipment including: pencils, paintbrushes, cutlery (including chopsticks) and scissors.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

Children will learn about differences and similarities between themselves and other people. They will learn about same and different homes and families. Children will discuss ways to be kind and ways to be a caring friend.

Children will learn about what is safe to go into their bodies (including medicines). They will learn about how to keep safe when indoors and also outdoors.

Understanding the World

Our theme for this half term is 'Superheroes'. As part of our work on people, culture and communities children will learn the story of the Chinese Zodiac and how the festival of Chinese New Year is celebrated. Children will look at a map of the world and locate some key features including position of land and sea.

Children will experience a Winter Welly Walk during which they will consider the changes to trees, weather etc. that they have observed.

Children will also learn about healthy foods including fruits and vegetables. They will design and make healthy recipes including wraps and fruit kebabs.