



Curriculum Statement

FI



Term One
September 2016

This term our main topics are titled:



The children will have the opportunity to explore their new learning environment and interact with other people during the first weeks in school. We will focus on reinforcing class rules and routines to have a smooth classroom flow and for the children to become aware of acceptable behaviour. Through everyday activities, the children will discover more about themselves and how similar or different they are from one another. They will be introduced to activities which develop new skills and strengths.

Key Vocabulary:

my name, my body, head, shoulders, knees, toes, eyes, ears, mouth, nose, eyebrows, hair, face, happy, sad, surprise, upset, tidy up, line up, wash hands, softplay room, ELC (Early Learning Centre), playground, library

Relevant Books/Authors:

'Spot Goes to School' by Eric Hill, 'Starting School' by Janet and Allan Ahlberg, 'See you Later, Mum' by Jennifer Northway, 'I Like Me!' By Nancy Carlson, 'Let's Make Faces' by Hanoch Piven, 'Go Away Big Green Monster' by Ed Emberley, 'Eyes, Nose, Fingers and Toes' by Judy Hindley, 'Ready, Steady, Grow!' By Sophie Piper

Related Websites/Resources:

<http://more2.starfall.com/m/me/me-content/load.htm?n=me-creator&y=1>
<https://www.eureka.org.uk/allaboutme/>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/SuperSimpleSong>



After focusing on oneself, the children will move towards learning about the people around them. As the children build relationships within the school, they will discover and learn different family backgrounds and cultures. They will have the opportunity to take part in group activities, engage in domestic role play and appreciate family traditions and customs. We will also focus on showing care and respect towards others, two important characteristics from the BIS Aide Memoire.

Key Vocabulary:

Family, together, home, mother, mum, father, dad, brothers, sisters, baby, grandma, grandpa, uncle, aunt, love, friend, share, care, respect, dinner, birthday, Christmas, Father Christmas, Christmas Trees, presents

Relevant Books/Authors:

Brother or Sister by Monica Hughes, The Family Book by Todd Parr, Time to Share by Kate Tym, Give that back, Jack by Phil Cox, Ellie and Elvies by Vivian French, Elmer's New Friend by David Mackee

Related Websites/Resources:

<https://elt.oup.com/student/familyandfriends/starter/?cc=vn&selLanguage=en>
<http://www.preschoolrainbow.org/family-theme.htm>
<http://www.earlyyears.friendsparentprogram.com/>
<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetailsKids.aspx?p=335&id=1636&np=286>

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Establishing positive relationships with adults and peers by understanding and cooperating with routines and boundaries is important this term. Most of the children are new to the school, so we aim for them to feel secured in their new learning environment and encourage exploring their surroundings with great pleasure and confidence. Children will also engage in activities that will help in smooth transitions in the classroom like tidying up, looking after one another, sharing toys and taking turns. As we discuss different emotions, the children will become more aware of their feelings and how to express them in appropriate ways.

How you can support at home:

It is helpful if parents encourage children to pack their own bag and carry them to school. Please give them time when they are trying to attend to their personal hygiene to help them develop independence. Practising how to button, tie, lace, buckle, zip, put on shoes, socks, trousers, skirts and shirts will be a great help too!

Related websites/resources:

<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetailsKids.aspx?p=335&id=1636&np=286>

<https://www.kidssoup.com/activity/emotions-and-feelings-preschool-activities-games-and-lessons>

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE – English

English is the main language in school, and that is what the children will be exposed to everyday. Children will be encouraged to use the English language to express their ideas, ask questions and share feelings. They will be given a lot of opportunities to learn new words and broaden their vocabulary and use these words in communicating with adults and peers. Listening is a very important skill that the children will need to learn and focus on this term.

How you can support at home:

You can help your child by showing interest in the words he/she uses when communicating and describing experiences. Use the new words they learn in school at home for reinforcement. You may also use words to link what they feel with their expression and body language. Remember to give children time to think, wait for them to put into words what they want to say and refrain from finishing or even saying the sentence for them.

Related websites/resources:

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>, <http://discoverexplorelern.com/5-preschool-listening-games/>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/3-5-years/letters-and-sounds>

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

For the first few weeks, children will learn self-help skills like washing hands, feeding themselves with a spoon, drinking from a cup, dressing and undressing and going to the toilet independently. During PE sessions, children will be encouraged to take part in activities and games that will help them develop new skills like balancing and jumping from higher surfaces. In the Soft Play room, they will be given the freedom to move in different ways such as running, crawling and hopping thus gaining more confidence in using their body and strengths.

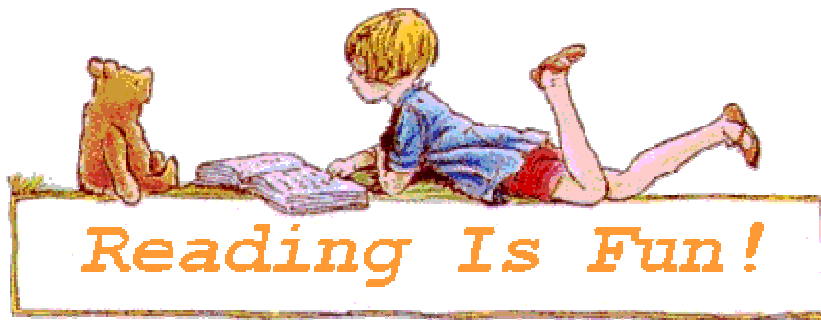
How you can support at home:

Use movement vocabulary at home such as running, crawling, walking, tiptoeing, etc. Give your child enough time for active play and for rest. Encourage and support your child when he/she tries to do things independently such as pulling up their pants after using the toilet or doing up zips and buttons.

Related websites/resources:

<http://familyfitness.about.com/od/preschoolers/a/grossmotorskill.htm>,

www.positiveparentingconnection.net/giant-list-of-self-care-skills-for-babiestoddlers-and-preschoolers/



LITERACY

Storytelling is part of our daily routine and children are encouraged to join in by pointing at pictures, answering questions and filling in missing words from the story. Children will also be exposed to different nursery rhymes and songs which they can sing and dance to. They will be also be encouraged to try different mark-making tools and talk about their artwork saying words like "This is mummy" or "this is a house".

How you can support at home:

Parents are encouraged to find time reading to their children at home. You may have a "Little Reading Nook" at home where your child can keep and read his/her books. You may also use puppets or props while reading to your child. Please remember to return library book as the timetable indicated so you can have more choice of books to read with your child.

Related websites/resources:

<http://pbskids.org/games/reading/>
<http://www.starfall.com/>
<http://www.magickeys.com/books/>
<http://www.readingrockets.org/>
<http://www.techlicious.com/website/pre-reading-sites-for-toddlers/>



MATHEMATICS

Children will be exploring a range of colours and sizes. There will be activities where children can experiment with sorting and arranging objects and toys around them. Problem solving skills will also be developed in activities such as completing puzzles and sorting objects according to colours and sizes. Counting will also be a feature of our everyday activities, from counting who's in school to singing and reciting counting songs and rhymes.

How you can support at home:

Parents can support children at home by singing songs and reading stories about colours, sizes and numbers with their child. People at home can also try to be descriptive with size, weight and capacity and make sure to be consistent with the vocabulary being used.

Related websites/resources:

<http://www.starfall.com/>, <http://pbskids.org/games/math/>
<https://www.turtlediary.com/games/preschool/math.html>
<http://www.kidsites.com/sites-edu/math.htm>
<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/preschool/preschool.htm>

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

As our topic is about “All About Me” this term, a great deal of time will be dedicated to learning each other’s name, and talking about things that make each one of us unique. Throughout the early months, the children will learn to explore actively using their senses, commenting on what they observe and what is happening around them. The children will also be encouraged to engage in dramatic role play focusing on everyday activities with their own families. Also, children will be introduced to the Interactive Whiteboard and learn how to operate the Interactive Whiteboard pen skillfully.

How you can support at home:

Bring your child to different places outdoors like the park, mall, museums or open spaces. Encourage him/her to explore the surroundings—asking what they can see, hear or feel. Join their pretend or dramatic role play, offering questions from time to time. Also encourage children to operate technological toys at home like remotes, CD players, or toy cameras.

Related websites/resources:

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/preschool/preschool.htm>

<http://pbskids.org/superwhy/>



EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

Children will be exposed to different mediums of mark making e.g. pencils, paint, crayons, etc. Adults in class will encourage them to explore these mediums and eventually make their own illustrations and representations. A variety of activities will encourage them to explore colours and textures using their senses. They will be also encouraged to express themselves through other creative forms such as dancing and singing.

How you can support at home:

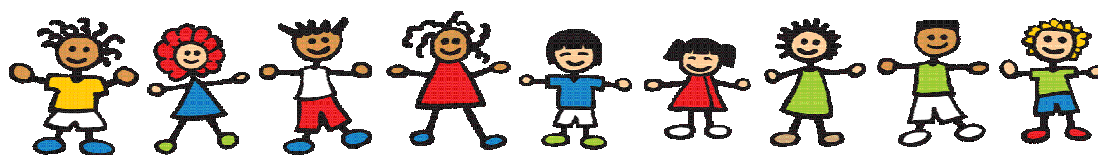
You may listen and dance to songs together with your child. Encourage and support your child while he/she is trying to draw and paint and, most importantly, accept wholeheartedly your child’s creations so that he/she feels that what they did is something special and valuable.

Related websites/resources:

<http://duckiedeck.com/play>

<http://www.abcya.com/>

<http://www.busythings.co.uk/>



We do hope that the above information will be useful for you when supporting your child’s homework and discussing his/her learning. Should you have any further questions please contact your child’s class teacher.