



EYFS



Guide to

Spring Term 2 2017



Our curriculum at Summerlea is creative and designed to forge links between the different areas of learning. Each topic we study is led by a driving question to get us thinking. We have listed the **main EYFS** curriculum areas that will be addressed and have given a brief outline of what we will be learning.

This half term our driving question will be...

What grows?

We are exploring growth, nature and change and comparing differences and similarities when studying people, animals and plants. We are looking forward to an extremely *hands-on* half term, involving planting, digging, designing and making. We will be encouraging the children to ask their own questions based around our topic, with them leading our day-to-day learning and explorations.

English: We will be reading a range of non-fiction and fiction books based around life cycles, plants and growth, as well as 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and 'A tiny seed' by Eric Carle. We are greatly looking forward to our Book Day celebrations, so are starting the half term by sharing our favourite book characters and then joining in with the National Poetry celebrations later in the term. We will be progressing in our learning of writing sentences for a range of purposes including poems, facts, recounts, questions, instructions and opinions.

Phonics and RWI: The children have been making super progress in their reading and we will be continuing to join Year 1 and 2 by working in smaller reading groups each morning, following the Read Write Inc scheme. The children are focusing on learning the phase sounds they are currently unfamiliar with and these are assessed regularly. Within these sessions, as well as in our own class, the children read with an adult in small groups. This is not recorded in their diaries, but please be assured that they are frequently heard reading in a range of contexts, both individually and in a small group.

Mathematics: Our number teaching is personalised to support the skill development of your child and through questioning and focused group work we will be continuing to develop their understanding of number through a range of fun activities. In Spring 1, we introduced 'Number of the day' in our own class, revealing a different number and presenting this in different ways, including as + and - number sentences, double, half, Numicon, counters and in words. This has been so successful and it has been a pleasure to see the children's confidence grow in using different mathematical language and also in understanding that one number can be represented in different ways. The children are getting more confident with using different resources to represent numbers and we will be continuing to develop this even more. We are also focusing on Maths in real-life contexts, so through their learning activities and in the outside area, the children will have opportunities to explore:-

Shape – Identifying, making and using 3D shapes, whilst discussing properties and differences between 2D shapes.

Symmetry, patterns and counting in a real-life context, linked to our exciting Easter explorations.

Money – Identifying coins and using money in role play scenarios.

Measuring – Height and capacity explorations and comparing heights.

Understanding the world, Communication and Language & Expressive Arts and Design:

This topic is a fantastic one for comparing similarities and differences between ourselves and nature. We are learning about how things change and life cycles. Moreover, at the end of this half term, we are exploring Christianity through the tradition of Easter. So far this year, we have been constantly impressed with the children's original and imaginative ideas. We will be continuing to develop their creative skills by using different media in a range of contexts both in our outside and inside learning environments. We are also looking forward to making troll sock puppets, cress heads, secret mini gardens in our outside area and conducting a growing experiment!

Word books – Thank you for your support with our new word books – we have received really positive feedback so far. Your child's word book contains words for them to practise reading (and mark making/writing). These are individual, based on your child's current level of phonics understanding, to enable them to progress constantly.

EYFS news and information

The team:

*Miss Rhoades, Mrs McConnochie and Mrs Robins (EYFS teachers)
Mrs Gordon, Miss Parsons and Mrs Pankhurst (EYFS Teaching Assistants)
Mrs Chittenden and Mrs Gingell (Individual Needs Assistants)
Mrs Calderwood, Mrs Burge and Mrs Moynihan (PPA and leadership cover)*

Library: Tuesdays - Please make sure they have their book each week.

PE: Indoor – Fridays or Mondays.

ICT: Tuesdays.

Exciting days and events:

World Book Day: Thursday 2nd March

Poetry Day: Tuesday 21st March

Dragons Den Maths Week: week commencing 27th March

Comic Relief Day: Friday 24th March

EYFS Spring assembly: 9am Thursday 6th April (more details to follow)

Requests:

We would like to ask for the following contributions:

- 1) A small (named) shoe box, as we are hoping for each child to design and create their own mini secret garden***
- 2) Any clean unwanted socks so that we can make troll sock puppets***

Thank you

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's Class Teacher if you have any concerns. Our doors are always open.