



EYFS

Guide to

Autumn term 2 2016





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 through each question and have given a brief outline of what we will be learning.

This half term our driving question will be...

What flies?

This is a very special topic as the children chose it entirely themselves! They came up with lots of different ideas and they got really excited thinking of learning about animals and transport, both ancient and new. So, we merged all our ideas together and are learning about 'flight'. Throughout this half term, we will be exploring these mini-questions:

Can people fly? (Transport focus)

How do animals fly? (Animal focus)

How can magic make you fly? (Fantasy flight and Christmas focus)

English: We will be exploring our topic questions through research as well as using our imaginations, encouraging the children to ask and then answer their own questions. We will be engaging in speaking and listening, reading and writing activities based around the theme of flight. These opportunities will be both fiction and non-fiction based. Our writing explorations will include facts, questions, letters and Christmas lists. Included in our reading explorations will be those pictured in this booklet, as well as others that the children are interested in. Please feel free to send in any books that your child enjoys at home that is linked to our topic and themes.



Understanding the world: We will be starting our topic by talking about transport we have used, as well as family holidays and trips away. Please keep sending in your holiday photos as we love sharing them together. We will be studying maps, globes and atlases and making our own, including fantasy ones. As the seasons are changing, we will be studying these changes, exploring the months of the year, seasons, weather and calendars. We will also be comparing our family traditions at Christmas time and introducing Christianity and Christian beliefs through the story of Jesus' birth.



Fun phonics: Thank you for attending our reading meeting in Autumn 1 and for supporting your child so well with reading at home. We continue to introduce a 'sound-a-day' in our Read Write Inc phonic sessions each day. In these sessions, we are also introducing red words (also called 'tricky' words) this term. These are words that need to be read on sight, as they do not follow sounding out rules.

Mathematics: Our number work is taught through our topic. The children will be engaging in problem solving challenges both in our classrooms and outside area that involve counting forwards and backwards, as well as number recognition, at their individual levels. We will be learning about data handling, including tally charts and block graphs. We will be introducing 3D shapes, thinking about packages at Christmas time. Following on from pattern explorations in Autumn 1, we will be looking at and comparing symmetrical patterns and then designing and making our own snowflake patterns. ❄️ 📦

Expressive Arts and Design: It is to our delight that we are performing a new nativity production this year entitled 'Angel Express'. So, we will be learning new songs and movements, practising and performing these in front of an audience. In our classrooms and outside area we will be furthering the children's hand skills development through drawing, cutting, designing and making activities based around our phonics learning and topic.

EYFS news and information

The team:

Miss Rhoades (EYFS leader and Maple class teacher)

Mrs McConnachie (Ash class teacher)

Mrs Robins (Willow class teacher)

Mrs Gordon, Mrs Pankhurst, Miss Parsons (EYFS Teaching Assistants)

Mrs Chittenden and Mrs Gingell (Individual Needs Assistants)

Mrs Burge, Mrs Moynihan and Mrs Calderwood (PPA/Leadership cover)

Timetable:

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

PE: *Weekly indoor PE, either on a Monday or Tuesday. Your child still needs their indoor PE clothes and plimsolls. Their PE bag will be sent home at the end of this term.*

ICT/Computing: *Your child will continue to visit our fully equipped ICT suite as well as engaging in computing activities in our classrooms.*

Exciting days and events:

8th, 9th and 17th November – Parent consultation evenings

Friday 11th November – Police and Ambulance visitors

Friday 18th November – ‘Children in Need’ dress up day: SPOTS

Thursday 1st December – ‘Angel Express’ dress rehearsal to the school

Friday 2nd December – Christmas fair

5th & 6th December – ‘Angel Express’ performances to parents – more details to follow

Thursday 15th December – Chartwell’s Christmas lunch

Friday 16th December – Last day of term

Person of the Week

This half term, we are introducing a fantastic tradition in our school of celebrating each individual child, called ‘Person of the week’. Each week, one child gets randomly chosen to be the Person of the Week, sitting on a special chair and being class helper all week. When it is your child’s turn, we will send a note home with them. They can then bring in their favourite book from home that we will read in class together and we will ask them questions to find out more about them.

Requests:

If you are sending a snack in with your child each day, please ensure that this is a 'healthy' snack (eg fruit bar, crackers) and does not contain nuts or chocolate. It may also be helpful to name it, so it doesn't wander off into another child's mouth!



Remember, water bottles come home each night, so you can refill them.

As the weather is turning now, it would be really helpful if your child could bring in a waterproof coat (old is fine) that can be kept on their peg in school, as we do go outside in all weathers. Thank you.



If you would like to help in your child's class, please see their class teacher.

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

Christmas



As previously mentioned, we will be performing our Nativity production of 'Angel Express' to you this year.



We will shortly be sending home more details on which costume your child will need for the production (what part they are playing), as well as detailing when we need them to be in school, ready for our dress rehearsal. If you have any difficulties in finding a costume, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher as soon as you can. Thank you. We are really looking forward to our show and thank you in advance for your support and co-operation in providing costumes and props.

