



Spring Term 2025 Learning Letter – Starfish Class

COMMUNICATION	FUNCTIONAL SKILLS	SKILLS FOR LIFE	PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
<p>In our Language and Communication lessons, we will focus on:</p> <p>Poetry Poetic Language: Carribean poetry and Fiction: Stories on a theme: farm stories</p> <p>We are going to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening to and understanding stories Taking part in discussions and role plays Comparing and contrasting Giving reasons for our opinions Taking turns in games Using games and cards to support communication <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about favourite foods and least favourite foods, books, cars etc. Tell and read familiar and traditional tales together from your own or other cultures. Watch cartoons based on traditional tales. Visit parks, farm or other place where you can find a variety of animals and learn what they like to eat. Discuss what different members of the family like and dislike. After reading a book together, discuss giving a reason WHY they liked or disliked it. Read two books together or watch two episodes of a cartoon, and discuss which one you liked more and why. 	<p>ENGLISH:</p> <p>Phonics will be taught from our scheme of work Rocket Phonics on a regular basis with a direct teaching session working on individual needs and will incorporate reading and spelling sessions alongside writing and vocabulary practice. We will also have sessions for reading for pleasure and our library slot.</p> <p>This term we will be focusing on:</p> <p><u>Poetry Poetic Language: Carribean poetry</u></p> <p>Key texts: •Explore the sights, sounds, smells and rhythms of the Caribbean through the wonderful poetry in A Caribbean Dozen. •Grammar includes adding suffixes and writing descriptively using adjectives and adverbs. •Be inspired to write a poem about a pet</p> <p><u>Fiction: Stories on a theme: farm stories</u></p> <p>Key texts: •Farmer Duck by Martin Waddell •Sam’s duck/the Birthday Duck by Michael Morpurgo •The Mouse, the Frog and the Little Red Hen Hamilton Group Reader and sound track</p> <p>MATHS:</p> <p>In our Maths Lessons we will learn about: M- Number: Algebra (pattern & sequencing) And M- Measure: Length & Height</p> <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practise counting groups of items eg how many crisps/ pieces of apple on the plate. Practise combining groups of toys eg lego and counting how many all together. Observe different shapes in the home and talk about their properties eg sides, corners. Make shopping lists together with your child, perhaps using pictures of food items Sort items eg toys, using different criteria eg colour, shape, texture. 	<p>SKILLS FOR LIFE</p> <p>Throughout term we will be working on the skills for life to support towards our personal goals for independence.</p> <p>Focus will be given in individual targets per student for in depth learning and practice.</p> <p>Cooking: Hot/Cold healthy lunches and Cooking: Hot/Cold healthy lunches.</p> <p>Geography: Food comparison - UK & other country of choice</p> <p>History: H – Mayan Civilization</p> <p>CREATIVITY AND THE WORLD:</p> <p>DT: Design, make & evaluate – Sewing and Advertising posters</p> <p>Science: - Respiration and exercise healthy and unhealthy lifestyles, pulse rate and breathing effects of exercise, parts of the body linked to exercise including skeleton and muscles Playground games Outdoor gym - Physical changes in matter Pure and impure substances, Brilliant bubbles Cheesy challenge Get set jellies Yummy yoghurt makers</p> <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support your child in being independent – making a drink for themselves, making snacks, getting dressed and personal hygiene Encourage your child to make safe choices at home and talk about the dangerous areas of the house eg electrical sockets. Encourage your child to have a healthy interest in the world around them eg by observing changes to the room or house, or by watching children’s appropriate news programs such as Newsround. Encourage creativity by allowing kids time to play with drawing patterns and colours on scrap paper if they want to. 	<p>PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>To reinforce and deepen the learning we will link our personal development with our life skills topics and lessons will be set aside for cultural festivals or celebrations.</p> <p>PSHE: PSHE: Managing Feelings – Self-esteem and Unkind Comments and PSHE: Self-Care Support and Safety - Feeling Unwell</p> <p>Cultural Development: CD: School values ‘Innovate’ (Link to Science Week)</p> <p>RE: The life of Buddha</p> <p>DIGITAL LITERACY / ICT:</p> <p>Developing Ideas and making things happen – Selecting from and adding to information for particular purpose</p> <p>E safety – Education for a connected world</p> <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about who are the child’s most trusted adults, eg parents, carers and teachers Discuss the importance of letting adults know what they are doing online or outside the home. Support them understanding the concept of personal space and respect it at home. Discuss examples of difference between family members and others and remind your child it’s okay to be different from each other Encourage your child to brush teeth and hair (supported or not), and maintain a personal self-care routine to help them develop their skills Role-play self-care tasks that your child finds difficult, eg brush teddy’s hair.



- Discuss different festivals throughout the year that are celebrated by your family

- Show your child how you use maps in everyday life, eg Google Maps or other maps, to get around.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Outdoor Adventurous – Team Building

Swimming

Fitness: Yoga

Forest school

Ways you can help your child:

- Access Go noodle, Joe Wicks and wake and shake exercises at home <https://www.gonoodle.com/> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKlid_e-loE https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Og_f0_QO_Ko
- Go for walks, bike ride & scooter rides in local area
- Cosmic Yoga & Meditation - <https://cosmickids.com/>
- Visit soft play, playgrounds, clip & climb, roller staking, Bounce, swimming pools
- Ensure your child is getting the right amount of sleep, including a good bedtime routine with down time away from technology and TV at least half an hour before sleep time.