

LEARNING LETTER - PANDA CLASS (SUMMER TERM 1 24-25)

MY COMMUNICATION Communication and Literacy	MY BODY Physical Skills	MY INDEPENDENCE Skills for Life
<p>This Summer Term, our new topic is Journeys: Trains, Planes, and Automobiles. We will explore different modes of transport, with a special focus on the story Mr Gumpy's Motor Car.</p> <p>Throughout the term, we will develop our comprehension and understanding skills by listening to stories about journeys and different types of vehicles. We will work on following instructions through engaging, themed activities related to travel and transport.</p> <p>To enhance language development, we will continue using matching activities and colourful semantics, encouraging pupils to describe vehicles, characters, and settings using symbols and simple sentences. Our creative sensory experiences will include mark-making and fine motor activities inspired by transport, such as tyre track painting and building vehicle models.</p>	<p>For PE, we will focus on improving coordination, balance, and motor skills while exploring different types of journeys. To support regulation and readiness for learning, we will engage in sensory circuits inspired by travel and transport. These circuits will help pupils develop their gross motor skills, balance, and coordination through activities like "driving" movements, "plane wings" stretches, and "train track" balancing.</p> <p>We will also continue with our weekly swimming sessions. Additionally, we will focus on "Ride-On Vehicles," using bikes, scooters, and other ride-on toys to support physical development, encourage independence, and practice safe movement.</p> <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage your child to ride a bike, scooter, or push a toy vehicle at home or in the park, helping to build their strength, balance, and coordination. 	<p>In our cooking lessons, we will focus on preparing pizzas and cheese roll-ups. Pupils will practice measuring ingredients, following step-by-step instructions, and learning important kitchen safety skills, including proper handling of utensils and good hygiene routines.</p> <p>We will also encourage independence in personal care, including face and hand washing, brushing hair, and learning to use cutlery during mealtimes.</p> <p>Additionally, pupils will begin to learn about basic road safety, developing an understanding of how to move safely in different environments.</p> <p>Ways you can help your child at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage your child to help mix and measure ingredients when making simple recipes like pizzas or cheese roll-ups, improving their hand-eye coordination and independence.

<p>To support communication, we will focus on using symbols to make choices, request items, and share ideas about different journeys, building confidence and independence in communication.</p> <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share stories about different types of transport and encourage your child to point out and name vehicles, such as cars, trains, aeroplanes, and boats. • Support your child in expressing preferences by offering choices (e.g., "Would you like the red car or the blue car?"). • Explore sensory mark-making together! Use toy cars to make tracks in flour, sand, or paint, encouraging your child to create shapes and patterns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play simple movement games together, such as pretending to be a car (crawling on hands and knees), a plane (stretching arms out wide), or a train (marching and moving in a line). • Practice jumping, stomping, and crawling activities at home to support whole-body movement. • Have fun with water play at home or in the bath to help your child feel more confident in water, splashing, kicking, and moving their arms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support your child in using a spoon, fork, or knife during meals to strengthen their fine motor skills. • Practice personal care routines together, such as face washing, hand washing, and brushing hair, encouraging them to complete as many steps as possible independently. • Talk about road safety when walking outside—practice stopping at the curb, looking both ways, and listening for vehicles.
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<p>MY COMMUNITY Personal Development</p> <p>We will focus on celebrating significant cultural and international events as part of developing pupils' understanding of the world around them.</p> <p>We will explore celebrations such as Cinco de Mayo through music, dance, and creative activities. Pupils will also learn about the importance of rules in our community through our topic "The World I Live In – Rules," helping them understand how rules keep us safe and happy.</p> <p>For Religious Education (RE), we will learn about Islam and Buddhism, exploring key ideas through sensory activities, storytelling, and simple crafts.</p> <p>Ways you can help your child at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share simple stories or videos about different celebrations like Cinco de Mayo, encouraging your child to notice differences and similarities to their own experiences. 	<p>MY COGNITION Digital Literacy, Maths and Working World</p> <p>Digital Literacy We will focus especially on using painting programs, encouraging pupils to develop their creativity, fine motor skills, and confidence when using digital tools to create artwork.</p> <p>Maths Our Maths focus this term is on Counting and Number Recognition. Pupils will practice counting objects accurately, work on recognising numbers, match numerals to quantities through games and hands-on activities, and practice ordering and sequencing numbers to develop a deeper understanding of number patterns.</p> <p>Working World and Science In Science and the Working World, we will explore Electricity. Pupils will engage in hands-on experiments to learn about simple circuits, exploring how electricity powers everyday items.</p>	<p>MY CREATIVITY Art, DT and Music</p> <p>In Art, pupils will explore the work of Vincent van Gogh, focusing on his painting style and techniques. They will create transport-inspired artwork in the style of Van Gogh, using a variety of sensory materials and tools to encourage engagement and develop fine motor skills.</p> <p>Pupils will also engage in junk modelling activities, designing and building their own transport vehicles using recycled materials, encouraging creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork.</p> <p>In Music, we will explore transport-themed sounds and rhythms. Pupils will experiment with instruments to recreate the sounds of trains, planes, and automobiles, and engage in sensory sound exploration. Activities will include creating rhythms and beats to mimic the movement and sounds of different vehicles.</p> <p>Ways you can help your child at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to explore painting techniques, such as swirling or dabbing,
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about family or school rules and why they are important, using clear and simple examples. • Explore different cultures through music, food, or crafts at home to build your child's awareness and appreciation of the wider world. • Encourage your child to take turns and work with others during play to develop teamwork and relationship-building skills. 	<p>History</p> <p>In History, our topic is Transport: Past and Present. Pupils will explore how different types of transport have changed over time through stories, sensory exploration, and comparing old and new vehicles. They will learn how transport has shaped travel and daily life.</p> <p>Ways you can help your child at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice counting everyday objects together, such as toys or snacks, to build confidence with numbers. • Point out and name numbers you see in the environment (on doors, signs, buses). • Explore old and new forms of transport through books, pictures, or outings to local museums or parks. • Talk about how we use electricity at home (e.g., turning lights on and off, using kitchen appliances) and practice safe habits together. • Encourage your child to use simple educational apps or games under supervision, practicing e-safety and building digital skills. 	<p>inspired by Van Gogh's style, to create pictures of vehicles or journeys.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect recycled materials at home (such as boxes, bottles, and tubes) and help your child build models of cars, trains, or planes to encourage creativity and design skills. • Listen to transport sounds (like train whistles or car engines) and encourage your child to move along to the rhythm or describe what they hear to develop listening and creative expression skills.
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