



Summer Term 2025 Learning Letter – Starfish Class

<p>COMMUNICATION</p> <p>In our Language and Communication lessons, we will focus on:</p> <p>Non-fiction texts: Minibeasts; “The National Trust Out and About Explorer”; various non fiction texts about minibeasts</p> <p>Poetry: Poems by the same poet: Valerie Bloom</p> <p>We are going to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking for bugs in the outdoor environment Learning about non-fiction texts Finding out facts about minibeasts Reading poems by Valerie Bloom Having a go at writing our own poems Using games and cards to support communication <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about minibeasts and look for minibeasts in your garden or local park Read and enjoy poetry together Watch children’s natural history programmes about minibeasts Visit places such as zoos where you can find a wide variety of exotic minibeasts Help your child feel safe around minibeasts by being calm or curious when you see a spider, ant or bee Show interest in different countries or cultures and look at the world map or globe together Read two books together or watch two episodes of a cartoon, and discuss which one you liked more and why. 	<p>FUNCTIONAL SKILLS</p> <p>ENGLISH:</p> <p>Phonics will be taught from our scheme of work Rocket Phonics three times weekly with direct teaching sessions working on a sound each week and will incorporate individual reading and spelling sessions alongside writing and vocabulary practice. We will also have sessions for reading for pleasure and a weekly library slot.</p> <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask your child what sound they are learning each week in phonics Help your child to read environmental text, eg on buses, food packaging, street signs etc. Play games with your child, Orchard Toys games for example with simple reading activities Help your child to split a spoken word into sounds, eg. “chip” becomes “ch-i-p” Allow your child to practise writing eg. Make a card for a friend, writing a shopping list <p>MATHS:</p> <p>In our Maths Lessons we will learn about: M- Number: Problem solving And M- Measure: Time & Temperature</p> <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help your child to identify maths problems in the home environment, eg how many forks do we need this evening? Practise combining groups of items eg grapes, strawberries and counting how many all together. Help your child to become aware of the different times of day in their routine, as well as morning/afternoon/evening. Help your child to look at any thermometers you may have in use in the house and to read the numbers on it Play simple board games eg. Snakes and ladders, Ludo Play simple time games eg What’s the Time Mr Wolf? 	<p>SKILLS FOR LIFE</p> <p>Throughout term we will be working on office and working life skills. We will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telephone skills – taking a message Retail skills – using money, communicating with customers <p>Geography: Location & Place – countries and cities – similarities and differences</p> <p>History: H – Thomas Edison, invention of the lightbulb (links with Science)</p> <p>CREATIVITY AND THE WORLD:</p> <p>DT: Design, make & evaluate – Build a Rocket Music: Composing from a visual stimulus – Vivaldi’s <i>The Four Seasons</i></p> <p>Science: Electricity and Magnetism, fuel uses and costs, Be Seen Be Safe. Chemical Reactions, surprising stains, muddy mess.</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, eg. By allowing them to make junk models from leftover packaging/boxes Talk about which items in the home use electricity Practise the skill of taking messages at home, with a real or pretend phone Support your child to use money and communicate in the local environment, eg buying a snack at a shop or asking for a drink at a café. 	<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: Changing and Growing – Healthy and Unhealthy Relationship Behaviour. World we Live in – Diversity, Rights and Responsibilities</p> <p>RE: Spirituality of music in all faiths Songs/hymns from different religions including the role of silence, chants and music</p> <p>Cultural Development: Disability awareness and diversity (including a Pride in Disability parade)</p> <p>DIGITAL LITERACY / ICT:</p> <p>Mark Making: Digital art Data Handling: Creating and using pictograms to answer questions</p> <p>Ways you can help your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss healthy relationships with your child, identify positive relationship behaviours such as talking about our problems, honesty etc 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 Discuss disability and especially the idea that disabilities can be invisible Listen to spiritual music from your own or other traditions and discuss likes/dislikes Give your child responsibilities they can manage at home, eg laying the table
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PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Short tennis skills, balloon tennis

Swimming (summer 1st half only)

Athletics (javelin, shot put, long jump, high jump)

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=Oq_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.