Literacy:

As in previous terms we will be linking our literacy learning to the projects we are engaged in.

- Phonics We are starting off this term recapping on the phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs, this term we are trying really hard to recall how to write them and writing them in as many words as we can. Towards half term we will be starting phase 4, this is a 5 week phase, we will be reading and writing longer words and also learning to read 14 new tricky words.
- Rhyme of the week this term we will continue to learn a rhyme per week or even every two weeks, a few of my favourites including Polly put the Kettle on and Miss Polly had a Dolly.
- Talk For Writing we will start off with a unit on recounts and children will write a recount of our visit to the museum, focusing on sentence structure and using time connectives in our writing. We will also write a story about a garden adventure and an information text about mini beasts.

Creative development:

The creative workshop is one of the most popular areas of our classroom. The children are very inventive and really enjoy making items from the scrap modelling equipment. The term will start off with lots of portrait work based on our visit to the museum and a book we read about portraits. Children will have lots of opportunities to do observational drawings of items from the past, from homes, school and toys. Some D and T projects will be embarked on linking with these projects, making buildings, making toys and exploring how things were made. As the term progresses we hope to get creative outside and create some Andy Goldsworthy inspired art work. Children will have a music lesson every other week on a Wednesday afternoon with Mrs Freeman and will be learning key music vocabulary such a tempo, rhythm, high and low. They will be learning about musical patterns.

Understanding of the world:

The term will start off with our project comparing the past and now and developing skills and vocabulary associated with this. We will be learning about homes in the past, toys in the past and then moving onto schools in the past. Hopefully we will be able to spend a lot of time in the garden and will be able to make observations of the plants that we are growing. We will be learning about what plants need in order to grow successfully. Later on in the term we will be spending a week focusing on special buildings and talking about why some buildings are special to different people. We will also learn about and explore mini beasts and their habitats.

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Communication and language:

This term we are really focusing on asking questions in order to gain more understanding of what we have heard and what we have learnt. We are will be working really hard on listening to the answers and the art of conversation, further developing those back and forth conversational skills.

We will be re introducing the "discovery" box – where mystery objects are hidden and provide children with the opportunity to explore and investigate and ask questions.

During the second half of the term children will all practise for our class assembly where they will have the opportunity to develop presentation and communication skills key for performance and presentation.

Mathematics:

We will be continuing to follow the Mastering Number maths approach for teaching maths in our classroom. As previous terms we will continue to have a short "maths fun" session per day, helping with number facts recall and understanding number through the Numberblocks episodes and our number of the week work.

- -Composition (the ways in which amounts/quantities are made up) we are looking at equal groups, consolidating ways in which 5 can be made from 2 sets of number and the pairs of numbers that go together to make 5. We will solve problems involving the composition of 10. We will continue to work on recalling doubles and the corresponding halves.
- -Subitising (see amounts not counting) we will be working on seeing sub sets in amounts and quantities, for example knowing that there are 5 really quickly because we can see 2 and 3 etc.
- -Counting We will work on counting amounts to 20 carefully, recapping on the rules for counting and practise counting from a given number (not just 1 every time)
- Comparison reasoning about numbers positions on number tracks by comparing them. Counting backwards by comparing numbers. Continuing to compare amounts using the vocabulary "fewer than" and "more than".

Personal, Social and Emotional development:

We are starting off the term thinking about ourselves as special people and how we are all different. We will also be thinking about people who are special to us and building relationships. Children continue to develop relationships with staff in the wider school community. As the term progresses we will be helping children understand the feelings of change as they transition into year one. We will continue to use the work we did with Katie the happiness trainer in order to support our emotional development and build resilience.

Physical development:

PE lessons will take place on Thursday afternoons with Mrs Akers during these lessons children will be developing athletics skills which we will use in our Sports Day in June. Other aspects of the gross motor skills elements of our curriculum will be practise and experienced in Forests schools sessions and outdoor activities in our own outside area. Children will continue with the fine motor skills practise in the mornings as we come into school, this term we are continuing to work through lower case letter family handwriting practise (curly caterpillar letters, long ladder letters, zigzag monster letters and 1 armed robot letters). We are still having a real focus on correct letter formation and trying really hard to form letters in the correct way.