

Early Years Curriculum Newsletter



November 2024

Dear parents,

We are delighted with how well the children have settled into school life at Marlborough. They have shown great enthusiasm in making new friends, exploring their learning environment, and adapting to new routines. As we move into the second half term, we will continue to develop in our early learning goals as well as start our PE lessons. Thank you for your ongoing support; we look forward to seeing the children continue to flourish.

Kind regards,
The Year R Team

Curriculum Overview

Our topic this half term is Celebrations, where we will explore personal experiences of events like Bonfire Night, Diwali, birthdays and Christmas. As the term progresses, we will engage with the children, learn about their interests and find ways to incorporate these into their learning.



School Timings

Just a reminder that the main gates will open at **8:35am** and classroom doors will open at **8:40am**. The school day ends at **3:15pm**. Registers close at **8:50am** and children marked in after this time will be marked as late. Please make sure your child is able to carry everything they bring to school on their own as they will need to take it home the same way.

Physical Education and Games



All children participate in physical activity as part of the curriculum. The PE kit consists of a plain white round-neck T-shirt, black shorts or jogging bottoms, trainers, and the school jumper or cardigan.

Our first PE lesson will be this Friday and every Friday thereafter.

Please send your children to school in their PE kits, which they will wear for the entire day. For health and safety reasons, please ensure that children do not wear any jewellery on these days and have a hair band to tie back long hair. Please note that wearing PE kits to school is a different arrangement from the rest of the school.

Wet and Cold Weather

Children are encouraged to bring their own pair of wellington boots to school, which will be stored in a designated area. Please make sure these boots are clearly labelled with your child's name. Additionally, remember to send your child to school with a coat every day as we go outside in all weather conditions, including rain. With the weather getting cooler, it's especially important to be prepared for outdoor activities regardless of the weather.



Ways to Help at Home

There are so many things you can work on at home to help us learn every day: help your child to read and write their own name (a capital letter to start, then lower case), practise fine motor skills like using scissors, playing with playdough and rolling balls, squeezing it and making snakes with it and encouraging your child to use the correct pencil grip. We are extremely grateful for your support with these ideas.

Reading

Soon we will be bringing home a library book the children have chosen for you to read to them. These will be changed every week. Library days will be shared soon.

As the children begin to learn letter sounds, we will send sound cards home for them to practise.



Wrap Around Care

Breakfast club runs from 7:45am - 8:40am daily, in the school library. Breakfast club is open to all children at a cost of £4 a day. Please sign up to breakfast club on Arbor 24 hours before.

We have an after-school club too, run by KOOSA. Please look on the school website in the "Parents" drop down and the "Wrap Around Care" area.



Tapestry – You have all had an email about your Tapestry account. It is a delight how many of you have activated your account and are already joining in with your own comments, observations and photos – thank you! Ask us if you have any problems or questions with Tapestry.

We hope that this curriculum letter informs you of what is going on so that you can support your children in their learning at home. As busy as school life is, there is always someone to help.

Yours faithfully,
Alex Houghton
Early Years Lead

Chanda Tamang
Early Years Teacher

Second Half Autumn Term Diary Dates

Monday 11th November - Remembrance Day

Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th November - Parents Evening

Tuesday 19th - Friday 24th November - Book Fair

Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd December - Santa's Grotto

Thursday 12th December - Nativity 9.30am

Thursday 19th December - Christmas Lunch

Friday 20th December - Break Up for Christmas

First Milestone. To be achieved in the Autumn Term.

| Subject | | First Milestone |
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| Communication and language | Listening and Attention | Children will be encouraged to sit and listen to a song or a story in a small group. They can begin to join in with actions in a familiar song or story. |
| | Speaking | Children will express their basic needs, such as toileting, hunger or thirst. They will be encouraged to use social phrases. Children will understand simple questions and learn how to answer those questions. All children will be encouraged to express their thought on the stories and their characters. |
| Literacy | Comprehension | Children will begin to learn to listen actively to stories read by adults. They will begin to learn the repeated phrases from the story with support of the adults in the classroom. |
| | Reading | Children will be working on listening to syllables in names and some common words. They will also be working towards recognising their own names. During singing time, the children will be focussing on hearing the rhymes. The children will also be learning sounds, blending and spelling in RWI (Phonics programme) sessions. We will be sending home the sounds that the children have been taught in school, please practise these to support children at home. |
| | Writing | Children will be encouraged to make meaningful mark with various writing tools in their play. They will also be copying shapes, simple drawings or lines. Children should be learning to form lower case letters in their RWI (phonics) sessions. |
| Maths | Numeracy | In Autumn term, children will work towards recognising and using numbers 1,2,3 to count towards and backwards, subitise, and describe. Children will also learn to find making number 3 in different ways, for example, 1 and 2, altogether makes 3. They will also be learning to use positional language (over, under, around, through, next to). |
| | Patterns | Children will learn to count orally to number 3 and back down to 0 using actions and sounds. They will learn to sort and compare objects and sizes using concrete resources. Children will learn to continue simple patterns. |
| Physical Development | Gross Motor Skills | Children shows confidence to move freely in various ways. They will be confident to have a go at the trim trail and shows willingness to have a go on the bikes and obstacle course. |

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| | Fine Motor Skills | Children will have a go at picking up small objects. They will make mark using various tools. Children will learn to manipulate playdough into variety of shapes. Children will also be encouraged and supported to use knife and fork. |
| Expressive Arts and Design | Art | Children will explore the use of paint and paintbrushes and other art resources through their own ideas. They will be encouraged to engage in role-play area and in imaginative games. |
| | Music | Children will listen to range of music and begin to express simple likes and dislikes with support. They will sing a range of nursery rhymes in the classroom. |
| PSED | Self-regulation | Children will learn to wait for their turn and the general rule of the classroom (toilet, lining up, register). They will also learn to ask for something verbally and clearly. Children will be working towards separating from their caregivers. |
| | Managing Self | Children will learn to use the toilet and wash their hands. They will increasingly become independent in dressing and undressing themselves. Children will also learn about healthy and unhealthy food. |
| | Building relationships | Children will have opportunities to build positive relationships with the adults in and around the classroom. They will learn the skills to build good relationship with their peers. |
| Knowledge and Understanding of the World | Past and present | Children will discuss members of their immediate family, and learn about people from school. Children will also develop the understanding of 'History' by talking about past events with visual support. |
| | People, Culture and Communities | Children will get the foundation for geography by learning about their immediate environment and discussions about their immediate residence. They will learn about the layout of the school and move around with increasing confidence. |
| | The Natural World | Children will explore indoor and outdoor environment developing curiosity through play. Children will learn names and description of animals and plants from their experience and environment. |