

Our learning this half term will follow the theme of “Growing & Changing”.

### Characteristics of Effective Learning

#### Playing & Exploring



We will encourage the children to think of other ways of doing things by thinking: “What else is possible?” “What if...?” & “How can I do this differently?”

#### Active Learning



We will encourage “intrinsic motivation” this term – achieving things they know are targets for themselves as opposed to doing it for adult praise.

#### Creating and thinking critically



We will work on the *Review* part of the “Plan, Do, Review” process. We will encourage the children to photograph/film their own work/make their own label to explain their work to others.

### Prime Areas of Learning

#### Personal, Social & Emotional Development



We will continue working on understanding and applying the school values. We will continue working on good communicating behaviours to help us make relationships/friendships stronger.

#### Physical Development



We will be working on improving our letter formation and begin to learn how to sit letters on a line correctly, whilst controlling letter sizes. We will also learn more about keeping ourselves safe including road safety, online safety & sun safety.

#### Communication & Language



Oral storytelling will continue to be a feature of teaching this half term with children encouraged to retell narratives using story language and connecting ideas in order. We will also be promoting explaining things clearly in order and saying why we like/dislike something.

### Specific Areas of Learning

#### Literacy



We will be reading stories like *The Enormous Turnip* & *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and retelling them in the correct order. We will also look at non-fiction books about farms & growing cress. We will apply Phase 4 phonics skills & build reading fluency. We will be focusing on securing spelling skills across all 4 phonics phases.

#### Maths



We will continue consolidating the number pairs for 1-5 and use to work out related subtraction facts. We will be counting forwards to 100. We will also work on comparing amounts using language like more, fewer & the same as. We will be learning the days of the week & the months of the year plus understanding measures including mass, capacity & volume.

#### Understanding the World



We will focus on Growth & Change by observing caterpillars including with a digital microscope. We will talk about changes in our own lives & their future in Year One. We will learn about special books including the Bible & the Qur'an & begin to learn a little bit about what it is like to be Muslim. We will learn how to film each other using the i-pad & use this to record our music & storytelling.

#### Expressive Arts & Design



Children will be taught how to draw & paint from observation using plants as inspiration. Small world play will be taught as a way of retelling & making up our own stories with characters and settings. Our music station will be enhanced with rhythm cards to encourage rhythmic work linked to stories and animals.

Please continue to support your child's learning at home through the reading/phonics activities provided in book bags.