

Phenomenal Fairy Tales

Our first topic of 2025 will be Phenomenal Fairy Tales. Our exciting term of learning will commence with a **Super Start**, where we will help Little Red Hen to make her loaf of bread. Our learning over the coming weeks will stem from a range of different fairy tales. We will be trying to catch the Gingerbread Man and trying not to disturb the troll when we cross the bridge with the Three Billy Goats Gruff. For our **Marvellous Middle**, we will be joining in the Lunar New Year celebrations. We will bring the half term to a close with a **Fabulous Finish**, whereby the children will be working in teams to try and solve the mystery and find out who entered the home of the three bears.

Communication & Language

In Communication and Language, we will listen attentively in a range of situations and know how to listen carefully. We will be able to maintain attention, concentrate and sit quietly. We will make predictions about what might happen next in a story and link stories to real-life situations, including in our play. We will know many rhymes, be able to talk about familiar books and tell a longer story. We will initiate conversations with adults and friends, keeping it going for several turns. We will offer explanations for why things happen and recount events that have happened in the day.

How can I support at home?

Read fairy tales at home, as well as saying rhymes. Encourage your child to talk to you about their day. Model language to your child whereby you provide opportunities to upskill their language by adding an adjective, synonym, antonym or action word.

Add an adjective:

Child: 'It's a tower.' **Adult:** 'It's a tall, blue tower.'

Use a synonym:

Child: 'It is big.' **Adult:** 'Yes, it's huge.'

Use an antonym:

Child: 'It is big.' **Adult:** 'It is big! It's definitely not small.'

Add an action word:

Child: 'A car.' **Adult:** 'Go car! Beep car'.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

In PSED, we will develop our skills in self-regulation, managing self and building relationships. We will show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge and understand behavioural expectations. We will take pride in our work and share our achievements with others. We will talk about healthy and unhealthy foods and be able to make good choices for these. Each week we will have a different manners focus and we will learn new social skills.

How can I support at home?

At school we will use the phrase 'Choose it, use it, put it away'. You could replicate this language at home. Please see our PSED/Manners curriculum on the website for our weekly focus.

Physical Development

In PD, we will continue to develop our gross motor and fine motor skills. We will use more tools, such as different sized paintbrushes, scissors, glue spreaders, hole punches and treasury tags. In PE we will be doing lessons on gymnastics and dance, looking at shape and balance, as well as fairy tales.

How can I support at home?

Encourage your child to hold their pencil using three fingers. Allow your child to use child appropriate scissors to begin to attempt to cut paper. Remind your child how to hold their scissor safely.



Literacy

In literacy, we will increase our phonics knowledge, blending sounds into words and reading a few common exception words related to our phonics scheme. We will recap all Set 1 sounds and learn Set 1 Special Friends, if we have not already been taught these. We will write VC and CVC words independently and begin to hold and write a simple sentence.

How can I support at home?

Use your Set 1 Speed Sounds Book to consolidate phonics daily. Read to your child every night. Play literacy themed games. E.g. I spy a c-a-t. Encourage your child to write their name, sounds that they have learned etc. Use the links for phonics games sent on Tapestry.

Mathematics

In maths, we will find and represent numbers 0 to 5, talking about 1 more and 1 less. We will then move on to comparing mass and exploring capacity. We will look in depth at numbers 6, 7 and 8, including groups of odds and evens, and doubles. We will learn about length and height, comparing the heights of different objects, as well as members of our class.

How can I support at home?

Talk about what numbers are added together to make another. Look for numbers in the environment. Talk about mass while doing any cooking or baking.

Understanding the World

We will learn about Lunar New Year, spending a week reading about the story of the Great Race and learning about traditions and celebrations related to this. We will recognise some environments that are different to the ones in which we live.

Expressive Art & Design

In Art, we will learn about Pointillism and Georges Seurat. We will use our knowledge and skills to create some artwork using dots. In music we will use percussion instruments to tell musical stories.

Upcoming Dates

Mon - 6.1.25 - INSET Day

Tue - 7.1.25 - Children Return

Mon - 3.2.25 - Learning Journal Session - Oak Class - 2pm - 3pm (Lagonda Hall)

Tue - 4.2.25 - Learning Journal Session - Chestnut Class - 2pm - 3pm (Lagonda Hall)

Wed - 5.2.25 - Learning Journal Session - Elm Class - 2pm - 3pm (Lagonda Hall)

Fri - 14.2.25 - Last Day of Half Term

Additional Information

For more year group information, please visit the class pages on our website.

<https://www.portfieldsprimaryschool.org/children/class-pages>

