



PIPPIN CLASS – Spring Term “From Freeze to Thaw”

Communication and Language

Speaking and listening skills are intrinsic to all our activities and the correct modelling of sounds and grammar.

Adults are careful to ensure all children are given the time and opportunity to speak and be heard, whether that be in a group or on their own.

This term we will continue to practice good letter formation, including letter families and spelling tricky words. Phonics continues with verbal sounds, letter shapes and reading longer words. Books and stories are read daily with children choosing books to take home. Our focus stories will be “Lost and Found”, “Solo” and “Little Red Riding Hood” with lots of others besides. World Book Day in March will include lots of fun activities around our favourite books.

We are reading...



RE

We will think about the following “Big Questions” taken from the Herefordshire syllabus: Which stories are special and why? including Bible stories. We will find out “Why Easter is special” for Christians and make an Easter Garden in church.

Attending church on Wednesdays, saying school prayers and Easter celebrations help us belong to our school community.

Mathematical Development

Children’s understanding of maths begins as play based activities, as the term progresses numbers are matched to quantities and mathematical language is extended:

more, less, same, bigger, smaller etc.

We will measure, height, length and weight.

We will try to recognise by sight amounts and combination up to 10, including zero, with practical addition and subtraction.

Understanding of the World



In Pippin class this term, we always enjoy exploring our local environment including visits to Church, the village, forest school, assemblies and our own outdoor area.

Our first topic will be ‘Penguin Party’ followed by ‘Into the Woods’ after half term. The themes will follow seasonal changes, weather, Shrove Tuesday and Easter traditions. We will find out about arctic animals, life cycles, keeping warm and how things grow.

Expressive Arts and Design

Continuous provision in Pippin class provides many opportunities for art, music, drama and design.

In addition, adult led music sessions teach about:

- Rhythm
- Pulse
- Composition
- Percussion

The musical story ‘Peter and the Wolf’ will form the basis from some mood composition with percussion instruments. Creative activities are linked to the topics and specific craft projects around the story themes.



What you can do to help:

Get out and about in the countryside identifying plants, spring flowers, birds and animals. Find out about where food comes from. Use counting for role play shopping and games, measure height, length and cooking ingredients. Count items and talk about:

- How many?
- More and less?

Look at door numbers and care number plates to recognise numbers in the environment. Practice letter formation, draw and paint with your child in sand, condensation, chalk, mud etc. Read school books, nursery rhymes, bedtime stories as often as you like!

Enrichment

Forest school, wellie walks and cookery will take place each week.

Children will join in with whole school celebrations and celebrations in church and school, with siblings, families and friends.



Reading and Writing

We will continue to practice our letter families and sounds in phonics.

We will talk about books together and continue to blend sounds.



Personal, social and emotional development

Personal, social, emotional development is part of all we do in Pippin Class, as children learn to share, cooperate and make choices. Children also take part in circle time and work with partners to develop social skills with their peers and the older children. We follow the "Jigsaw" scheme of work which includes the topics "Relationships" and "Changing Me".

Computing

At Pencombe, our lessons are taken from the "Kapow" scheme of work.

Topics this term include:

- Simple data handling
- An introduction to computing systems.

Children are taught how to use the internet safely and responsibly.



Physical Development

Gross motor skills are developed outside and inside through play, bike riding, wellie walks, construction and PE lessons.

There will be lots of outdoor activities and challenges using large materials, forest school and gardening to improve strength and coordination. As children grow and strengthen, we will incorporate more collaborative and rule-based games.

Fine motor skills are practiced daily in dough disco, free play, drawing, cutting out, craft, cooking, computing and counting activities.

Values of the term:

January - Hope
February - Love
March - Creativity
April - Respect