



'Forest Fairytales'

Welcome to Reception!

This term marks the beginning of our children's exciting journey into school life. Our focus during Autumn 1 is on settling in, building relationships, and establishing routines that support a love of learning and independence.

Prime Areas of Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED):

Children will be supported in developing confidence, forming friendships, and understanding classroom expectations. We will explore what makes them special, labelling their emotions, stranger danger and how to share.

Communication and Language:

We will immerse children in rich language experiences through stories, songs, rhymes, poems and conversations. Listening and attention skills will be nurtured, and children will be encouraged to express themselves clearly and confidently. We will use Poetry Basket resources and will learn a weekly poem to share in Worship. We will have a focus on the acquisition and use of new language linked to our weekly text.

Physical Development:

Children will develop fine and gross motor skills through activities such as daily dough disco, cutting and craft activities, outdoor play including the use of balance bikes, trikes and scooters, climbing and balancing at Forest schools and class games with a focus on different ways of moving during weekly PE lessons.

Specific Areas of Learning

Literacy:

Our theme this half term is 'Forest Fairytales'. We will look at a variety of traditional tales including Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Little Red Riding Hood, The Gingerbread Man, The Little Red Hen and The Three Little Pigs. We will introduce phonics using the Little Wandle scheme, focusing on initial sounds, rhyming and oral

blending. We will progress through phase 2 phonics activities and will learn our first set of tricky words.

Mathematics:

Children will explore numbers to 5, counting, sorting, and comparing quantities. We will also look at repeating patterns, shapes, and size language such as small, medium and large.

Understanding the World:

We will use our forest school setting to explore seasonal changes in Autumn and we will pick our own apples from the orchard and turn them into apple juice. We will look at how Harvest Festivals are celebrated in the UK and around the world.

Expressive Arts and Design:

Children will express themselves through drawing, painting, music, and role play. We will encourage creativity and imagination as they explore topic related painting and craft activities including model making and Harvest crafts. Children will paint self portraits to enter in Stokesley show.

Religious Education

In RE we will be thinking about who God is to Christian people and looking at the Creation story from the Bible and important values to Christian people.

Enrichment and Experiences

- **Settling-in activities** to build confidence and familiarity
- **Forest School activities** to notice seasonal changes
- **Harvest celebrations** to foster community, Christian ethos and gratitude

Our key author for this term is Judith Kerr. We will read and revisit a wide variety of her stories regularly to foster familiarity and to encourage retelling the story, joining in with familiar phrases and tuning in to intonation.