

# Brookvale Curriculum

## What is your child learning this week?

Week Beginning 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024



### Reception

**Class Literature:** 'Winter' by Anne Herriges (Non-Fiction)

**Class Nursery Rhyme:** 'Here we go round the Mulberry Bush'

**Primary Curriculum Focus:** Understanding the World

**Communication and Language:** Whilst discussing the class text, 'Winter,' the children will be encouraged to share their own experiences of winter and will be asked questions about how winter is defined. The children will be asked to think about their 5 senses while discussing this to enable them to think of different aspects of winter. They will be reminded about ways they can speak in well-formed sentences and asked to describe events in detail.

**Maths:** In maths this week, the children will be learning how to compare mass and capacity. The children will be using test tubes, bowls, bottles, jars etc. to fill with sand, water and cubes, discussing their observations. During continuous provision, the children will have scales and other measuring equipment to explore mass and capacity.

**Literacy:** In Literacy, the children will be exploring wintery scenes on the iPads. Using these scenes as a stimulus, children will then create a bank of adjectives, and be taught new vocabulary, that can be used to describe the wintery scenes. After this, they will be supported in writing a simple factual sentence about winter with word mats to aid them and through 'holding a sentence.' During continuous provision, the children will be painting ice cubes to aid their fine motor skills for writing.

**Physical Development:** In P.E., the children will be continuing their topic on dance. This week, they will be asked to confidently show their own actions in response to a piece of music in front of others. In outdoor play, the children will continue to strengthen their gross motor skills using the scooters, bikes, tyres and balancing equipment to aid them.

**PSED:** During circle time, the children will be asked to talk about their favourite activities that they like to do during the winter months. During this time, the children will be encouraged to listen to others and consider the thoughts and feelings of others in the class.

**Expressive Arts & Design:** In Art, children will be creating 'tree art' using the technique of 'soufflage.' This involves blowing paint across the branches of a 2D snowy tree with a straw.

**Understanding the World:** The children will be experimenting with water this week to see what happens when water is frozen and then warmed again. Towards the end of the week, the children will have the opportunity to fill a balloon with water and then freeze it, making observations about how freezing causes expansion. They will then make a prediction before finding out what happens when a pin is put into the balloon.

**Phonics:** In phonics, the children will be learning the sounds /y/ as in yellow and /z/ as in zebra and fizzy. They will also be learning the common exception words 'be' and 'was.'

**Spellings:** During each writing lesson, the children will learn a new spelling and the meaning of the word. In January, the children will be learning how to spell the words: same, mean, differ, move, right, boy, old, too, does, tell.

### Year 1

**Class Literature:** 'Hansel and Gretel' written by Josephine Collins

**English:** After a successful week fully immersing themselves into the story of Hansel and Gretel, this week the children will begin to build their vocabulary and use adjectives to describe settings and characters. The children will begin the week by writing a setting description of the forest, using a range of expanded noun phrases that contain newly taught ambitious adjectives and prepositions. Next, the children will describe the main characters Hansel and Gretel, focusing on characterisation techniques by selecting vocabulary (adjectives and verbs) to describe appearance, personality and actions. Children will also learn how to use the coordination conjunction 'and' to create compound sentences.

**Maths:** Children will continue exploring place value within twenty. They will begin the week by understanding the numbers 11, 12 and 13 and slowly introducing children to other teen numbers before finally finishing with understanding of the number 20. The children will use a range of resources, such as tens

frames, counters cubes and base 10, to support their learning and understanding of the value of each number and how to make it in a variety of ways.

**Geography:** The children will begin their unit on 'Wonderful Weather' this week. They will begin the unit by learning about the difference between seasonal and daily weather patterns and observing and describing daily weather patterns, linking these with longer seasonal patterns. Over the week, as a class, children will complete a daily weather chart, this will also be given as homework for the children to continue observing the weather independently through the Showbie app.

**History:** Following on from last week's exploration of present-day toys, this week the children will focus on the key question – 'What toys did people play with 100-150 years ago?' The children will compare and contrast a toy car and a bicycle. They will consider questions such as- 'what materials the toys were made from, what type of toys were popular and how do toys from the past work, e.g. spinning top mechanisms.

**Computing:** The children will start their new unit on algorithms this half term. This week they will focus on – 'What is an algorithm?' They will begin by discussing a set of instructions on how to get dressed, understanding that each part must be followed in a sequence. Children will consider other algorithms they follow in the daily lives. Children will then write a simple algorithm and share it with their partner to see if they included detail and accuracy of the algorithm.

**R.E:** In the second lesson on special books, the children will find out which books are special for different religions. The children will look at the Torah, the Bible and the Qur'an and will discuss what is the same in each book and what is different.

**PDW:** This week the children will focus on the key question, 'What do we need to stay healthy?' Children will learn about factors that contribute to good physical health, including nutrition, exercise, sleep and being outdoors. They will discuss why these elements are key for maintaining this and will create one action that they can do to improve their physical health, e.g. setting a bedtime or a weekend walk in the park.

**DT:** The children will be exploring fruit and vegetables in their new unit this term. This week they will begin to categorise food items into fruits or vegetables. They will use their knowledge from last term's science to classify and discuss what makes a fruit a fruit and a vegetable a vegetable before discussing some trickier one, such as tomatoes and peppers.

**Phonics:** This week Group 1 will focus 'oo' as in moon, and 'ar' as in car. Group 2 will focus on 'ie' as in shield and 'ea' as in peach. Group 3 will focus on the sound 'air' spelt 'are' 'ear' 'ere' and the sound 'or' spelt 'al'.

**Spelling:** This week, the focus will be learning words that contain the vowel digraph 'ar.' The children will spell words such as: garden, start, artist and star.

**PE:** In dance this week, the children will be focusing on the theme 'Trees and Leaves.' They will learn how to develop fluid movement while extending their limbs to replicate the soft movements of branches in the wind. They will remember and repeat actions and respond imaginatively to a stimulus. In fitness, the children will be focusing on developing knowledge about how exercise can make you strong and healthy. This will also link into their PDW lesson on what do we need to stay healthy.

## Year 2

**Class Literature:** *'The Diary of a Killer Cat'* by Anne Fine

**English:** This week, the children will write their own story in the style of Frann Preston-Gannon, the author of the book 'The Journey Home.' Children will research other endangered animals and use this knowledge to add their animal to the boat. Our writing focus will be on expanded noun phrases, always considering our reader and asking ourselves if we are keeping our reader entertained. Initially, the children will plan their story, using visual prompts, then using a set of success criteria the children will draft their story.

**Maths:** This week, the children will be revisiting fact families. The children will look at number bonds to and within 20. They will make links to number bonds to 10, and children will recognise how knowing these bonds supports this learning. The children will continue to use concrete resources where needed to support children in initially identifying bonds to a given number.

**Science:** In science, children will investigate the key question; "Would we make a teapot out of chocolate?" Children must justify their reasons why/why not, relating their answers to the properties of materials. Children will then investigate other objects and make silly suggestions, such as wellington boots made from paper. This activity will give children the opportunity to showcase their knowledge of the expertise of materials.

**Geography:** This week in Geography the children will continue to explore their new topic. They will focus on the key question 'what does the earth look like from above?' The children will learn about perspective. What does Ariel perspective look like and how is this different to the everyday perspective. The children will have a go at drawing specific features from an Ariel perspective.

**History:** This week in History, the children will continue to explore the topic 'Great fire of London.' After the Christmas break, we will begin our lesson recapping our previous knowledge and then focus on how and where the fire began.

**Music:** This week in music the children will be appraising the song 'I Wanna Play in A Band' by Joanna Mangona, a Rock song for children. Throughout this song the children will be learning how to sing and play together in an ensemble.

**Art:** Children will begin a new art unit this week exploring 3D drawing. Children will use a selection of HB pencils, experimenting with holding their pencils and exploring tones which are made by different HB pencils. Children will examine the series of artworks by Ed Ruscha called "Ribbon Words" and express their opinions of this artists' work.

**RE/PDW:** This week in PDW the children will be discussing the importance of online safety and ways you can protect yourself when online.

**Computing:** Continuing their learning about online safety, children will learn about passwords; what makes them safe, how to create a strong one and why we need them. Children will learn who to share their passwords with, such as trusted adults, as well as ways to remember them.

**Spellings:** This week's spellings are words which use the rule; adding -ing to a word ending in y with a consonant before it, such as: copying, crying, replying, marrying, carrying, flying, trying, drying, skiing, taxing.

**Grammar:** In grammar this week, children will continue to refine their use of expanded noun phrases but with an emphasis on engaging the reader. Children must use the most suitable, high-level vocabulary they can think of to ensure the reader's interest is maintained.

**PE:** This week in PE the children will be learning how to send and receive a variety of different sized balls.

## Year 3

**Class Literature:** 'Charlotte's Web' by E.B. White.

**English Reading:** This week, the children will focus on understanding the context of the text, considering what it is like in a barn and inferring how the animals on the farm feel as the text takes a focus on these characters. The children will work to visualise and describe what they imagine of the setting, and they will then be creating a collaborative poem focusing on scenery. At the end of the week, the children will create a role on the wall for the character of Wilbur.

**English Writing:** In writing this week, the children will continue to explore the text 'The Seal Surfer' by Micheal Foreman. To start the week, they will be writing some direct speech in role of Granddad and Tom, discussing the seals that they have spotted within the changing of seasons across the year. The children will then be looking at paragraphs, identifying reasons why a paragraph would change in a fiction text and notifying where the author has changed paragraphs and why. At the end of the week, they will be writing their own story with paragraphs, before planning their story re-write.

**Maths:** Children will continue multiplying and dividing two-digit numbers by one-digit numbers. To support them with this concept, the children will use concrete manipulatives on their iPads, working with place value counters and columns.

**Science:** For their second lesson on light, the children will identify which surfaces reflect light most and least. The children have established that darkness is the absence of light and that light travels in straight lines, first reflecting from an object and then to the eye, but this week, they will learn that smooth, shiny surfaces are the best reflectors.

**Geography:** In geography, the children will be building an understanding of location on Earth. They will identify the nesting concept that can be seen with an address, starting with the name of the building for example, then the street etc. The children will be researching places on google maps.

**History:** In history this week, children will learn about the significance of the River Nile during the period of Ancient Egyptian civilisation. Upon discovering its purpose, they will draw comparisons between life then and life now and why many cities around the world continue to develop around rivers.

**Design Technology:** Prior to producing their own pneumatic toy, in this lesson, the children will be given their design criteria. Having experimented with an array of pneumatic systems, the children will be drawing their own designs, identifying which system they will be using in their final product and justifying why.

**Music:** In music, the children will have their first lesson playing the recorder. They will learn the method for effectively playing the recorder, knowing how to hold this correctly and their finger placement. The children will then practise by learning to play the song 'My Bonnie lies over the ocean.'

**PDW:** This week, the children will answer the key question 'How can we challenge gender stereotypes?' The children will firstly evaluate a series of advertisements for toys, noting the colours, product, phrasing and actors in the advert and identifying if there is a gender bias prevalent. The children will then work to create their own gender-neutral advertisement for a toy.

**P.E:** The children will begin their next P.E. units of football and dance. This week's focus will be to work on control when passing the ball in football and working on how to use their positioning to support their control of the ball. In dance, the children will finalise the routines they have been working on, using music as their stimulus and creating routines in count with this.

**Computing:** During their second computing lesson, the children will expand their program to use a repetition loop. The children will be adding a musical loop to their animations too. They will be sharing their work using Apple screen mirroring with the class, to give constructive feedback on their animations.

**French:** In French, children will be expanding their knowledge of French cognates, identifying the names for several food items this week. Their main activity will be a listening activity in which children will listen to a range of opinions in French, name the food and give their opinion on this.

**Spelling:** The spellings this week will focus on prefixes, including 'gardener, gardening.'

**Grammar:** The grammar focus this week will be compound nouns, which is a noun made up of two or more existing words such as: playgroup, bathroom, windscreen etc.

## Year 4

**Class Literature:** *'The Rhythm of the Rain'* by Grahame Baker Smith and *'Gorilla'* by Anthony Browne

**English Writing:** At the beginning of the week, the children will perform their list poem based on Roger McGough's poem *'The Lost-Lost Property Office,'* considering their intonation as well as any actions or sound effects they could incorporate. Following this, they will begin their new unit based on *'Gorilla'* by Anthony Browne. They will start by using an illustration to infer Hannah's (the main character) personality traits as well as discuss aspects of her appearance. They will then use the front cover to infer what the author thinks of Gorillas before reading the beginning of the story and discussing their opinion on the book so far as well as any questions they may have and connections they can make to other books they have read. At the end of the week, they will create expanded noun phrases for the image of Hannah and her father in the kitchen and use these to write a blended character and setting description.

**English Reading:** The children will continue their reading unit on *'The Rhythm of the Rain'* by Grahame Baker Smith. They will start the week by looking at the illustration of Isaac in a cave, inferring his thoughts and feelings to capture these in a diary entry. Following this, they will compose questions for Isaac to use in a hot seating activity. They will then use another illustration of Isaac on the boat to infer his thoughts, creating thought bubbles. At the end of the week, the children will focus on the question 'Where will my little jar of water go now?' before writing a letter to Isaac.

**Maths:** The children will continue their work on multiplication and division. They will begin the week by using place value charts to multiply numbers by 1,000 before moving onto dividing by 10 and 100. They will consider how they can use their knowledge of the times tables to help multiply and divide by 10 and 100.

**Music:** The children will continue their external keyboard tuition with Mrs Owen. They will use the 'C' and 'D' keys to improvise.

**French:** The children will recap their knowledge of the Year 3 mastery conversation questions, such as *'Quelle âge as-tu?' as well as their first Year 4 question 'Quelle est la date de ton anniversaire?'* They will take on the role of a famous person or fictional character to answer these questions, thinking carefully about the learnt phoneme/grapheme correspondences.

**History:** The children will begin their new History unit on *'The Anglo-Saxons.'* They will learn about the Dark Ages, which followed the Roman Britain. They will explore the different tribes that make up the Anglo-Saxons (The Angles, The Saxons, and The Jutes), including where these tribes came from, where they settled and the different push and pull factors to why the Anglo-Saxons wanted to be settlers in Britain.

**PDW:** The children will be exploring different disabilities, including those that may not be visible, those that are short term and those that are long term. They will recap their knowledge of what a stereotype is and how these might affect people with disabilities, highlighting the importance of treating everyone equally.

**Art:** The children will complete an artist study on *'The Old Guitarist'* by Pablo Picasso (1903), exploring what they can see, how the painting makes them feel and what they like/dislike about the painting. Following this, they will focus on expressive lines, using these to replicate sections of *'Starry Night'* by Vincent Van Gogh, considering the movement and direction of the lines.

**Geography:** The children will continue their new geography unit on *'Rivers and the water cycle.'* In this lesson, the children will identify the different features of a river, such as tributary, source, confluence, meander, and estuary.

**Computing:** The children will continue their computing unit on *'Sway.'* This week, they will plan a webpage based on our previous History topic *'The Romans.'* They will consider how to split the information into different subheadings as well as any hyperlinks they could use in preparation to create their webpage in the following lesson.

**PE:** The children will continue their new units focusing on hockey and basketball. In hockey, the children will develop the attacking skill of dribbling, ensuring they keep their head up to see the space, only use one

side of their stick and rotate the stick fully over the ball. In Basketball, they will focus on protecting the ball when dribbling against an opponent. They will bend their knees to get low and put their non-dribbling arm out to protect the ball from their opponents.

**Spelling:** This week, the children will be focusing on homophones and near homophones such as 'cereal' and 'serial' and 'check' and 'cheque.'

**Grammar:** This week, the grammar focus will be on homophones (words which sound the same but are spelt differently) such as 'aloud' and 'allowed' and 'weather' and 'whether.'

## Year 5

**Class Literature:** 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare and 'Arthur and The Golden Rope' by Joe Todd- Stanton

**English Reading:** The children will continue their reading unit, exploring themes in William Shakespeare's 'Macbeth.' At the beginning of the week, children will be re-enacting the scene depicting the murder of King Duncan and how Lady Macbeth reacts to the news of her husband's actions. They will then begin to build their understanding of the significance of Banquo's death and why this is an important aspect of the play and how it contributes to its themes. The children will demonstrate their learning by creating a play script to portray the events. By the end of the week, children will apply their learning to discuss the second meeting of Macbeth and the three witches, answering questions such as what does Macbeth hope to gain from the visit? and how do the witches contribute to the atmosphere?

**English Writing:** Children will begin their writing unit inspired by Norse myths and focusing on 'Arthur and The Golden Rope' by Joe Todd-Stanton. Children will begin the week by creating a scene in which the main character portrays their thoughts and feelings through their speech. The children will focus on how they communicate and what words would portray their emotions most effectively. In the middle of the week the children will be creating a recount of Arthurs journey identifying the VIP's (very important parts) helping to produce an accurate retelling of his mission. At the end of the week, children will be creating a paragraph around the scene between the two Norse gods Thor and Loki, they will describe the actions and intent of both character whilst using adverbials to make their writing more coherent.

**Maths:** Over the course of next week, the children will continue their new unit on multiplication and division. The children will begin by dividing a four-digit number by a one-digit number and will then expand their understanding to division using the most efficient method. Children will then apply this to the inverse operation and work on multiplication and division worded questions.

**Science:** Children will continue their learning about 'Living things and their habitats.' The children will be focusing on the key question, 'How do plants reproduce?' The children will be creating a structured experiment focusing on the growth of some cuttings from a fully developed plant. They will the monitor this throughout the following weeks to see how the cutting develops.

**Geography:** This week, children will explore global trade, focusing on the key question 'what are imports and exports?' The children will focus on what is meant by an import and export and why there is a need for this country and around the world.

**History:** This week, the children will continue their unit of learning about the Maya. Children will be learning how the Maya fit into the tapestry of history and will look at which other key eras were before, during and after the Mayan period ended.

**Music:** The children will continue their external keyboard tuition with Mrs Owen. They will use the 'C' and 'D' keys to improvise a short refrain to unify a song.

**PDW:** Over the course of this week, the children will continue to learn about health and wellbeing. The children will focus on the importance of 'embracing failure' and why learning from mistakes is an important part of life.

**French:** The children will conclude their unit of learning around 'la fete des rois' by practising and demonstrating their learning by recording their pronunciation of key phrases and responses and annotating their recordings on their iPads.

**P.E:** The children will be applying the skills they have acquired across the previous term and continue to improve their swimming skill and technique. Children will also complete a swimming assessment to determine how far they are from achieving swimming competency and life-saving skills.

**Spelling:** This week, children will learn how to spell words that are nouns with the suffix -ness, such as: happiness and hardness.

**Grammar:** The grammar focus for this week will be to accurately punctuate direct speech.

## Year 6

**Class Literature:** 'Star of Fear, Star of Hope' by Jo Hoedstadt

**English Reading:** The children will focus this week will be to use punctuation and word selections when developing fluency and intonation when reading aloud. This will provide an opportunity to discuss key themes that begin to arise from the book and begin to unpick our main character, August. There will be opportunities for the children to hot seat key characters that become part of August's story and explore how they treat him differently as the story progresses.

**English Writing:** As the children begin to explore the theme of conflict and war, they will be introduced to our new novel. They will explore the relationship between the two girls, Lydia and Helen using speech and using the SEAT approach to add actions and emotions to their dialogue to move the story along. Using speech and emotive language, the children will rewrite the opening to the story from the point of view of Helen.

**Maths:** This week's focus will be on angles within a triangle and understanding that the interior angles of a triangle add up to 180°. Children will compare and classify different geometric shapes based on their properties and find unknown angles within any triangle, quadrilateral and regular polygon.

**Science:** In science, children will learn how to identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways. They will conduct research into Charles Darwin's work exploring the Galapagos Finches and how they changed and adapted to their environment for them to survive. The children will then research an animal of their choice and explore what characteristics it possesses for it to thrive in its own habitat.

**Geography:** This term, the children will be exploring how we can protect the environment, starting with understanding how humans are damaging the world. The children will explore the current threats to our planet, explain how some of those threats affect the wildlife and their habitats and research ways in which our generation and future generations can improve the health of our planet.

**Music:** This week, the children will be exploring the pentatonic scale, which is a musical scale of 5 notes per octave. This will be explored alongside a key piece of music called 'Dragon Tail,' which the children will be working towards playing as their end of unit assessment piece.

**Art:** Due to the inset day last week, the children will begin designing their lino prints based on the flora and fauna designs they have been observing and drawing over this unit. The children will be introduced to the lino material and the lino cutting tools and will be shown how to use them effectively for their designs. The children will then trace their designs onto the lino and create a relief printing block either as an additive or subtractive print to create their repeated pattern design inspired by William Morris. 

**P.E:** Last week, the children focused on their dribbling skills in hockey followed by a fitness session. This week in netball, they will develop their passing and moving skills to maintain possession of the ball. They will need to ensure one foot stays on the ground at all times, watching their footwork, and moving into a new space to pass or receive the ball.

**Arithmetic:** This term, the children will complete an arithmetic lesson everyday focusing on a set of skills. This week, the children will be focusing on refining their addition and subtraction skills with numbers up to 6 digits, primarily focusing on numbers that require borrowing when subtracting from zero. In addition, the children will be challenged to add large numbers that require exchanges. Alongside these skills, they will be given problem style questions to show the relationship between the arithmetic skill and a worded problem.

**Grammar:** Over the next term, the children will complete half grammar tests every day to begin to consolidate their understanding of grammar. This week, the children in both grammar and English will be focusing of tense forms, identifying the differences between simple past, past progressive, past perfect and future tenses. The children will complete a range of practise test questions to consolidate their understanding at the end of each week.

**Spelling:** The spelling focus this week will be words with the long /e/ sounds spelt 'ie' or 'ei' after 'c' (and exceptions e.g. deceive, perceive and neither).