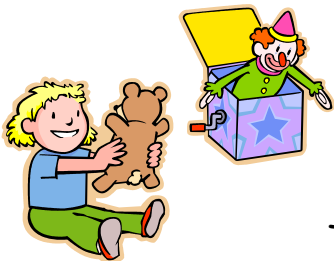


Broomhill First School



This half term's topic for the Big Owls is...

Let's Look in the Toy Box!

Language, Communication and Literacy

We will introduce the topic through lovely toy themed stories. Children will be able to retell the stories with pictures, puppets and props. They will innovate their own stories based on 'Kipper's Toybox' using their own name for the title and their own ideas. Children will talk about their favourite toys and their language will be extended as they are encouraged to use ambitious words to describe them. We will play games to promote the use of positional language (behind, next to, under etc.) as we hide the teddy for others to find. All children will participate in daily phonics activities to promote reading and writing.



Physical Development

Children will develop fine motor skills by screwing nuts and bolts to make robots and they will use cutting skills to make their own jigsaws. They will develop gross motor skills outdoors and in PE lessons as they take part in dance sessions run by Little Movers. We will also be taking part in a Diwali dance workshop to help us learn about the Hindu festival.

Children should come to school dressed in their PE uniform every Friday.



Understanding the World

Children will compare their own toys to those of babies and older children to understand how and why children play with different toys as they grow up. Children will also learn about toys from the past - those that parents or grandparents may have played with. They will play with programmable toys and will learn how to use a remote control to move a toy. Children will also think about how toys are made or how they work and move.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Children will be encouraged to play together by sharing toys and taking turns. They will continue to learn about feelings and they will use their knowledge in role play to say what makes teddy feel happy or sad.



Expressive Arts and Design

Children will enjoy spending time in our role play areas as they look after broken toys at the toy hospital and fix them in the workshop. Our focus artist linked to the Toys topic will be Andy Warhol and children will create some colourful toy paintings to showcase their favourite toys! They will use ICT skills to design their own poppy artwork for Remembrance Day and children will explore patterns as they look at Indian art for Diwali.

We will also be learning some fun songs for Christmas - Watch this space!

Mathematics

Children will count toys in the toy box and use the strategy of lining them up to help count each one reliably. They will help to set up a Toy Shop in the classroom and children will practise number formation as they write price tags. They will also recognise different coins and count out pennies to pay for toys. They will learn to add up the price of two toys to find a total. Children will fill in favourite toy surveys on clipboards and talk about their findings. We will also look at the shape of presents and parcels and weigh them in the toy workshop.

Important Info

We are really excited to have our whole yard area back so the children have lots more outdoor space to move around in. We are hoping to do some more developments outdoors in the coming months and we will be in touch if parents can help in any way. If you have any ideas on how to improve our outdoor area, please let us know.

Celebration Events

Remembrance Day: Wed 11th Nov

Children in Need: Fri 13th Nov - Non-uniform day.

Odd Sock Day: Mon 16th Nov - A part of Anti-Bullying Week to celebrate differences. Children can wear odd socks for the day!

Road Safety Week: 16th-20th Nov

Diwali Dance Workshop: 23rd Nov

More news about Christmas activities to follow!



Wellies

As we encourage activities outside in all weathers, it would be great if your child had a pair of wellies in school. Please let us know if you would like them returned at the end of the day or for the weekend. Alternatively, you can leave a pair in school all of the time at your child's peg.

Junk Boxes

The children are enjoying making junk models. If you have any items for our junk model bin, please send them in on a Friday so they can be quarantined over the weekend before the children use them the following week. Small boxes, tubes or scraps of fabric are really useful.

Lunch

Thank you so much for being cooperative with menu choices as meals are currently being brought in from JCSC.

Just a reminder that children in Reception are entitled to receive Universal Free School Meals regardless of individual financial circumstances. However, if you are entitled to **income related free school meals**, please apply for this as greater benefits will be received for your child, yourself and our school. Please contact the school office or the Free School Meals Team at Northumberland County Council on 01670 623592 or email childrensservices@northumberland.gov.uk

Having a school lunch provides excellent learning opportunities for trying new foods, using cutlery and developing table manners. However, should you prefer to provide a healthy packed lunch instead, then please let us know.

Remember to check your Tapestry account regularly.



Helping at Home

Imaginative Play - Play with your child and their toys. Encourage them to talk as they play and make up stories to act out with the toys. Promote sharing and taking turns.

Maths - Set up a toy shop at home. Make price tags for each toy and practise number formation. Count out pennies to pay for each toy. Buy two toys and add the prices together using coins to find the total.

Reading - Please make sure you read with your child or recap their phonics sounds on a daily basis. Note down any reading of their school book in their reading diary.

Thank you very much for reading this information letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mrs Haves

