

N THEME 1: FRIENDS AND SCHOOL (17th Aug. to 25th Sept.)

Our first topic of the year focuses on learning more about friends and school.

INTRODUCTION WEEKS

We use the first two weeks of school to gently ease the children into school life. The lessons therefore focus on making sure the children feel comfortable in their school environment. The children will spend time getting to know their friends, learning the daily routine and helping to decorate their new classroom. We will also review some of the key things the children learnt in Pre-Nursery, such as shapes and counting.

THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

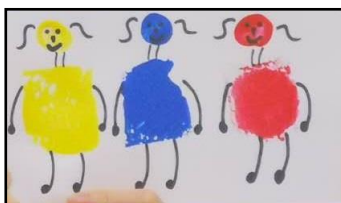
Keywords: School, friend, hello, name, play, rules, safe, share, game, fun, teacher, nurse, bus driver, guard, chef, door, table, mat, window, board, paint, markers, glue, scissors, books.

Songs: 'The more we get together' and 'Ring around the rosie.'

We will start off the year by reading a book called, 'Ming goes to school.' This book will help the children learn about what we do at school and how we can play with our friends. Teachers will also take their classes around the school to introduce them to some of the people that work at Newton. They will be encouraged to say hello and each person will show them some of the different tools they use every day to do their jobs. Back in the classroom the children will learn more about the different objects and tools in the classroom. The teacher will show them how to use the tools in the correct way. They will also read a book called, 'Adventure Annie,' which highlights some of the fun things we get to do and use at school. The children will learn some of the rules of the classroom, to make sure everyone has fun and stays safe. They will read the book, 'David goes to school,' about a little boy who never likes to follow the rules. Lastly, the teacher will focus on the topic of sharing, using the book, 'Llama Llama,' to illustrate this important skill. The children will play a fun group game using a parachute.

ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual art work)*

In their art lessons the children will make paintings of their friends, using their fingerprints and sponges. They will also celebrate Autumn/Fall, by making a colourful tree, printing with sponges for the leaves.



MATH AND READING LINE LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Colours, rainbow, soft, quiet, loud, sound, big, small.

Songs: 'I can sing a rainbow' and 'Make a circle.'

In their math lessons the children will start off by reviewing some colours they would have learnt last year in Pre-Nursery. The teacher will play a game using a hula hoop to ensure the lesson stays fun and interesting. The teacher will then introduce the concept of sounds. The children will read the sound book, 'Goodnight construction site,' helping them to learn about soft/quiet and loud sounds. The children will also explore with cylinders of water, noticing how, when filled to different heights, they make different sounds when tapped. The teacher will teach the concept of big and small, sorting objects from the classroom and using big and small animals to illustrate size differences.

The children will start learning the letters of the alphabet and in this first month they will focus on A, B and C. They will read the books, 'Ants', 'What can it be' and 'I can see.'

NURSERY THEME 2: STAYING WELL, STAYING SAFE (28th Sept. to 23rd Oct.)

Our second topic of the year focuses on learning more about how to stay healthy and safe.

THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

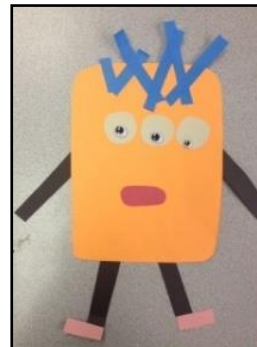
Keywords: Mom, Dad, parents, care, help, safe, food, healthy, eat, lot, little, tasty, clean, share, sick, fire, calm, stop, drop, roll, crawl.

Songs: "Gifts for Mommy", "Good morning – How are you?" & "Ring around the Rosie"

The children will start by learning how their parents keep them safe. We will read the book, 'One more hug for Madison.' We will discuss and role play the different things parents help with and other things the children can now do all on their own. The children will learn about how eating healthy food is good for them. The book, 'Shopping list' will show them all the food they should be eating, to grow big and strong. There are certain things that are good to share and other things that we shouldn't share. The children will learn about these different things and why we can and cannot share them. For instance, we can share a ball with a friend but we shouldn't share our toothbrush. Lastly, the children will learn about fire safety. The class teacher will teach them everything they need to do when they hear a fire alarm and take them on a fire safety scavenger hunt. They will also read a book called, 'No Dragons for tea' which shows them how dangerous fire can be if we are not careful.

ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual art work)*

In their art lessons the children will make beautiful fruit prints using different fruit and paint. They will also learn about Halloween, making shape monsters to celebrate the tradition.



MATH & READING LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Small, medium, large, size, order, heart, star, round, pointy, shape, diamond, rectangle.

Songs: "Make a circle – big and small", "Five little hearts", "Twinkle twinkle little star," "The shape song" & "One potato, two potato"

In their math lessons the children will start learning about small, medium and large. The book, 'Goldilocks and the three bears,' will help them to understand these concepts. The teacher will also use bear puppets, picture cards and play dough to help the children understand. Their knowledge of different shapes will be extended by learning about the heart, star, rectangle and diamond. We will read a fun book, 'Mouse shapes.' The children will play a fun game: The teacher will play music while the children pass a shape around. Whoever has the shape when the music stops, has to describe it using a full sentence. The teacher will then facilitate further learning by helping the children to use shapes to create different things, such as animals, houses etc.

The children will start learning how to write the numbers 1 - 3. The teacher will use rhyme and trace the dot worksheets to help the children. During reading lessons, the children will learn about the letter D, when they read the book, 'We like dogs' and the letter E, when they read the book, 'Ed likes eggs.'

NURSERY THEME 3: EVERYTHING CHANGES (26th Oct. to 20th Nov.)

Our third topic of the year focuses on how things in life grow and change.

THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

- Keywords: Day, night, wake, sleep, next, weather, change, hot, cold, sun, windy, snowy, rainy, sun, moon, sky, grow, need, food, exercise, sleep, water, bigger, plant, clouds, umbrella, seed, bean.
- Songs: "The sun in the sky shines down on me", "The planting song", "The farmer plants the seed", "Jump down, turn around" & "Head, shoulders, knees and toes"

This theme the children will start learning about the days of the week. The teacher will do this by first ensuring that the children understand daytime and nighttime. They will read a book about what happens during the day and what happens during the night. Learning that as one day comes to an end, a new day begins.

The children will also learn about changes in weather and begin to understand that we have seasons. They will pantomime different types of weather, make a weather chart and read a book about weather in different parts of the world.

The classes will learn what we need to grow and will pantomime the different things we do to help us grow big and strong.

To end the theme the children will read the books, 'Gus grows a plant' and 'Flower garden' to learn about how plants grow and change and how to appreciate them. They will also get the chance to plant their own fast-growing beans, to see first-hand how the plants change as they grow.

ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual art work)*

In their art lessons the children will make day and night art. They will make suns using cut toilet rolls and stars using cookie cutters. They will create rainy day umbrella art, using blue ink and craft sticks. Lastly, they will use paint and old soda bottles to design beautiful flower patterns.



MATH & READING LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

- Keywords: Number, write, trace, follow, count, many, one – ten.
- Songs: "One potato, two potato" & "How many monkeys".

The children will continue learning how to write numbers, focusing on the numbers 4 and 5. They will then review writing numbers 1 – 5. They will also use music, toys and a feely bag game to help them understand and review the value associated with these numbers. Number recognition and counting from 1 – 10 will also be a continued focus in this theme. The children will use their new skills in the learning centers, exploring with beads, pipe cleaners and felt pizza, cementing the above concepts.

During reading line lessons, the classes will focus on the letters F and G. They will read the books, 'Four furry feet' and 'Lets go!'