

## K1 THEME 1: FRIENDS AND SCHOOL (17<sup>th</sup> Aug. to 25<sup>th</sup> 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. The teacher will also explain the class captain concept to the children. Each day one child is the class captain and they have different responsibilities, helping the teacher. The children get very excited about this and love the added responsibility.

### THEME LESSONS

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

Keywords: School, friends, games, learn, explore, rules, safety, culture, world, different, teamwork, help, share, tools, community.

Songs: 'The more we get together,' 'Love my school,' 'It's a small world' and 'Best friends.'

We will start off the year by reading a book called, 'Kindergarten Rocks,' sharing feelings on what we love about school. The teacher will also remind the children about all the different people that work at Newton as well how to have fun and stay safe in all the different activity areas of the 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. Pippa the Puma will teach the children about helping friends and how to play nicely. The book, 'Hello,' will introduce the children to people from different places and cultures around the world. The children will practice saying hello in many different languages. This lesson will allow the children to explore and learn about our differences and our similarities.

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

In their art lessons the children will work as a team, making a collage artwork using patterns. They will also have fun trying to draw each other's portraits and then celebrate Autumn/Fall, by making a hedgehog from the fallen leaves.



### MATH AND READING LINE LESSONS

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

Keywords: Primary, secondary, mix, counting, numbers.

Songs: 'I can sing a rainbow,' 'Let's count to 20' and 'The number dance.'

In their math lessons the children will start off by experimenting with colours and ice, learning about primary and secondary colours. The children will work on counting from 1 – 20 and being able to recognize and name these numbers when they see them written down. The teacher will play fun games, such as, 'who can find it first' and 'number toss.' The teacher will use simple rhymes to help teach the children how to write numbers 1 – 10.

During reading line lessons the children will start to recognize simple words, whilst reading the books, 'Ready for school' and 'School day.'

## K1 THEME 2: STAYING WELL, STAYING SAFE (28<sup>th</sup> Sept. to 23<sup>rd</sup> 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: Health, safe, clean, manners, rules, polite, team, win, lose, emergency, help, plaque, dentist, oils, grains, fruit, vegetables, meat and milk.

Songs: "My bonnie", "Five little monsters", "Brush your teeth" & "Do you like broccoli"

In their theme lessons the children will learn about the best ways to stay healthy and how to be safe both while being inside and outside. With Sports Day being on the calendar this month, we will discuss sports safety and rules too. The class will play a game of soccer/football and learn a few of the rules associated with the sport. They will also learn about the importance of good manners. The book, 'Big black bear' is a fun story that they will read to help teach the children about good manners.

The classes will discuss going to the Dentist and how to keep your teeth healthy, to prevent cavities. The children will also try food from the five different food groups, encouraging them to eat a variety of different food, to keep healthy.

Lastly, the children will learn about what to do in an emergency and practice a school fire drill. They will also make a personal information card, with their name, telephone number and address. They will keep this in their backpacks, as it is important information for when they are alone in an emergency. The children should be encouraged to know this information by heart.

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

In their art lessons the children will make beautiful pattern monsters to celebrate the tradition of Halloween.



### MATH & READING LESSONS

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

Keywords: Numbers, count, show, object, rocket, race, zero, oval, crescent, semi-circle, rectangle, diamond, half.

Songs: "Once I caught a fish alive", "Ten green bottles" & "Shape chant"

In their math lessons, the children will learn to link the numbers they have learnt with an actual value. They will play a game using connecting cubes and a dice, to practice what they have learnt. This play will then be extended by using tally sheets to count and record different classroom objects.

The children will play a different version of the well-known game of tag, helping them to learn how to count backwards. They will also discuss times when counting backwards is used, such as a rocket launch.

In the last week of the month, the class will move onto learning more about shapes, how they can be manipulated and shapes in nature. A circle can be made into an oval, crescent and semi-circle. A square can become a rectangle and a diamond triangle. The class will go outside to find and explore shapes in nature, as well as read the book, 'The shape of things.' During reading lessons, the children will read the books, 'Goldilocks' and 'Who am I.'

## K1 THEME 3: EVERYTHING CHANGES (26<sup>th</sup> Oct. to 20<sup>th</sup> 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:** Grow, change, older, bigger, longer, plant, seed, root, stem, leaves, flower, parts, soil, water, sunlight, air, Mon – Sun, day, week, morning, night, next, January – December, weather, seasons, Autumn, Summer, Winter and Spring.

**Songs:** "Head, shoulders, knees and toes", "The needs of a plant", "The planting song", "Cha cha slide", "In and out the dusky bluebells", "Days of the week" & "Months of the year".

This theme the children will learn about all the different things that grow and change. The classes will first learn about how our bodies grow and change, and will read the book, 'I'm growing.' The children will look at pictures from when they were babies and compare them to how they look today.

Plants also grow and change. The children will learn the names of the different parts of the plant and look at plants in detail through a magnifying glass. They will read the book, 'Surprise garden,' where a little boy grows some weird and wonderful things in his back yard. The classes will then extend their experience with plants through the learning centers in the classrooms.

The teachers will set up an area where the children can examine different plants and all their different features. We will also go outside, and each child will get to plant their own seed, learn about its needs and then look after it, seeing firsthand how it grows and changes over time.

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

In their art lessons the classes will continue to talk about change and how a flower or plant changes as it grows. They will make a beautiful flower artwork. They will also make season art using their handprints as trees, to show the changes that occur throughout the year.



### MATH & READING LESSONS

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

**Keywords:** Match, use, together, work, sound, listen, count, copy, some, similar, different, carefully, set, group.

**Songs:** "The more we get together", "Ten in a bed" & "My whole body can move".

The children will start this theme's math lessons by looking at things that go together. For example, a lamp and a light bulb. The teacher will use real objects, picture cards and worksheets to help the children understand this concept. They will also play a fun team game. They will then move onto learning about numbers through sound. They will get to explore with different instruments and play a fun name game. The instruments will be left in the learning center for further exploration. The final math concept for this theme is, similar but different. The children will look at many objects, comparing their similarities and differences.

During their reading line lessons, the children will join the teacher in reading the books, 'I see fish' and 'Toys night out.'