


Year groups Reception Class name Dormice Class	Term Autumn	Teachers: and TAs Mr Kemp and Mrs Ingledow, Mrs Tippins and Mrs Price
<b>Personal, social &amp; Emotional</b> We will play lots of "getting to know each other" circle time games - learning names and what individual children like/don't like - and will discuss feelings about starting school. We will follow SCARF sessions, Me and My Relationships and Keeping Myself Safe which will cover concepts such as understanding how it feels to belong and that we are similar and different (and to promote understanding of diversity); enjoying working with others to make school a good place to be; understanding why it is good to be kind and use gentle hands; and learning what being responsible means. We will discuss British values and our school values such as Friendship, Respect, Determination, Self-belief, Tolerance and Courage.	<b>Topic Theme: Marvellous Me and Shine Bright</b>   <p>Why? Children will feel happy and settle more quickly into the setting if we focus on experiences familiar to them.</p>	<b>LITERACY</b> Phonics, Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills are taught each and every day. Children are taught both as a whole class and in small groups according to the teaching focus of the session. <b>PHONICS:</b> We will teach a new phoneme each day following the Essential Letters and Sounds Programme. Children will be taught to segment and blend, form letters correctly and will read phonics books that match the phonemes they have learnt. <b>WRITING:</b> We focus on writing the sounds that we know and the correct formation of letters both capital and lower case. Emphasis will be placed on encouraging the children to understand the importance of writing as a means of communication through 'emergent' writing and more structured activities. <b>READING:</b> An important element of the initial language work will be to develop an enjoyment of books and stories through discussion and handling of picture and story books. Children will receive a 'sharing book' from a variety of sources such as the library and class book selection so that reading can be shared at home.
<b>Physical Development</b> Each day we have a focus on the development of both fine and gross motor skills. Children have access to cutting and making tools as well as threading and play dough activities in order to develop fine motor control. Activities made available in the outdoor environment help the children to develop large motor skills such as riding bikes and using balls, hoops, beanbags and painting. Welly walks in our exploration garden and school grounds will also develop their gross motor movements. In weekly PE and Yoga lessons we will be focusing on moving our bodies in floor movement patterns and basic balance work.	Daily lessons and activities are planned according to the seven areas of learning outlined in the Early Years Foundation Stage document. The Prime Areas include areas shaded in red, the specific areas are shaded in green.	<b>UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD:</b> Children will explore their new environment both inside and out, whilst understanding what makes us each unique. Understanding the World We will talk about past and present events in our own lives and in the lives of family members and think about how these may have differed in times gone by. We will look at and compare local environments such as our homes and our school (how does it compare to nursery?). We will investigate ways of staying safe and healthy and will learn all about the different parts of our body (inside and out), and including the five senses. To develop our understanding of diversity we will learn about a range of celebrations including those that celebrate harvest, autumn, The Christmas Story, Hanukah and Diwali.
<b>Communication and Language</b> This term will be all about getting to know each other, encouraging the children to share information about themselves and their experiences. We will encourage children to form secure relationships with the adults and children and provide lots of opportunities for talk throughout the day in a language rich environment. Adults will model good language skills encouraging children to speak clearly and in correct grammatical sentences. By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added, adults will build children's language effectively. Each day the children will listen to a stories rhymes or poems, and will be encouraged to re-tell key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. We will use 'Now Press Play' to immerse ourselves in stories and topics to develop our vocabulary and give first hand experiences.	<b>MATHEMATICS:</b> The focus in this first term will be on numbers up to 5, ensuring children's understanding of the 5 main counting principles used in Mathematics. We will be using 5-frames to develop the key concept of subitising whereby children learn how to instantaneously recognise the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them. We will engage in a meaningful activity each day, exploring mathematical concepts involving number and using the Maths Mastery Approach and the BBC series "Numberblocks" to help bring numbers and associated mathematical ideas to life. Activities will be planned to help develop young children's natural problem-solving abilities in the context of mathematics. I will be modelling precise and correct mathematical language for the children to repeat and eventually use, providing a language structure to connect each mathematical idea to different contexts.	<b>EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN:</b> We will paint self-portraits, and use chalk to create olden-day style family portraits. We will look at Autumnal colours and use these to inspire some creative activities. We develop our use of technology in ALL areas of the curriculum. Purple Mash will be used as a resource to support this. The latter part of the term will naturally include LOTS of festive-style creative activities (usually featuring a vast amount of glitter!) We will learn lots of topic-related songs and poems and will use percussion instruments to add accompaniments to music and to sound out syllables in our names.

Characteristics of Effective Learning			GOLDEN THREADS
<b>Playing and Exploring</b> We will encourage the children to explore by discovering new things. We will ensure that resources are relevant to children's interests and will plan first-hand experiences and challenges appropriate to their development. We will encourage them to have a go at new activities.	<b>Active Learning</b> We will support children to choose activities - what they want to do and how they will do it - and will ensure they have time and freedom to become deeply involved in activities. We will develop their ability to keep on trying whilst learning a new skill and to be proud of their learning.	<b>Creating and Thinking Critically</b> We will model how to be a "thinker" - showing that we, as adults, don't always know an answer, are curious and sometimes puzzled, and can think and find out. We will encourage open-ended thinking by not always settling on the first ideas and seeing what else is possible?	Vocabulary Lead Curriculum  Expanding Knowledge of the World (Cultural Capital)  Promoting Diversity