

# Little Acorns

## Spring term 1 2024-25



### Communication, language and literacy



Stories are at the heart of our curriculum and we love to share a wide range with the children. Some we read many times so we become very familiar with them and some are read simply for pleasure. Many of our texts this half term are about superheroes and we start off with Supertato by Sue Hendra. We will work on developing vocabulary through these books and stories and encourage children to ask and answer questions about what they have seen and heard. The children will also begin to develop their prediction skills as we talk about what might happen next based on what has already happened in a story.

In phonics the children will recap phase 2 and then start on phase 3 which includes lots of new digraphs and trigraphs to extend their reading and spelling skills.

### Mathematics



We will be looking at the composition of numbers 5-8 and learning to recognise, compare and partition them into 2 or 3 groups before recombining them in early addition skills. We will also be looking at capacity, mass, length and height so there is lots to do!

### Personal, social and emotional development



We will start the term thinking about new year resolutions and personal goals. The children will be encouraged to develop a positive attitude and resilience as they try to achieve their goals. Our superhero stories will give us opportunities to talk about helping others as well as how to work as a team.

### Physical development



In our weekly PE lessons we will be learning about jumping and landing correctly as well as practising a seated static balance. We will also continue to handle large scale construction equipment and use our outdoor play area to help develop our gross motor skills.

Our fine motor skills will be developed with regular activities to help us with pencil control and handwriting.

Please ensure your child has the correct kit in school every day. We will send all kit home at half-term to be washed unless this needs to happen earlier.

### Understanding the world



*Our topic of People Who Help Us will help us to think about all of the things which people in our community do to help us. These will include emergency workers like firefighters and ambulance staff plus other roles like dentists and vets.*

*We will also find out about Chinese New Year and some of the traditions involved plus look at seasonal changes as we explore winter weather.*

### Expressive arts and design

We will be exploring colours and textures with different media. We will also be continuing to learn a range of traditional rhymes and songs as well as listening to music which represents different moods and feelings.



## Reminder



Please name all clothing that the children bring into school including coats, shoes and PE kits. Things do go missing, especially at PE time, after accidents and at lunchtimes when the children take their outdoor gear over to the hall, and it is much easier to reunite owner and belongings if there is a name in them! Please check to see if names on labels have faded in the wash too as we try really hard to decipher them but aren't always successful! We will keep an eye on wellies, pumps etc to make sure they still fit ok as we all know that children have growth spurts which may result in the footwear they keep in school suddenly becoming very uncomfortable!

Please send in this half term's snack money (£6.00) so that we can continue to provide a range of snacks beyond the government provided fruit and veg. Please send this in a named envelope to staff in Little Acorns and not added on to any bank payments you may make to the office.

## And finally....



*What a cold and tricky return to school we have had after the Christmas hols! Thank you so much for your understanding during this week of ice, snow and generally difficult conditions. Most of you have managed to get your children to us safely every day and we really appreciate that, thank you. The Christmas break seems like such a long time ago doesn't it?! It has been lovely to see the children return with a big smile and great enthusiasm for life in Little Acorns! Thank you for all your support in helping your children continue to be happy and to thrive in our class, they are all a credit to their families.*

*If you have any questions, queries, concerns or wish to share any information with me then please get in touch on Class Dojo, via the office: [office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk) or via my email address: [j.kenny@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:j.kenny@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk)*

### **Key dates:**

Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2.45pm – EYFS/KS1 celebration assembly  
Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Jan - 2.45pm - EYFS/KS1 celebration assembly  
Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> – Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Feb – Children's Mental Health Week  
Fri 14<sup>th</sup> - 2.45pm - EYFS/KS1 celebration assembly  
Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Feb – Break up for half term  
Mon 17<sup>th</sup> – Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Feb Half Term  
Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Feb - Return to school