



HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
FAIRLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

**Pound Avenue
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG1 3JA**

Headteacher: Mr Robert Staples BA (Hons) Assistant Headteachers: Miss Michelle Bridge & Miss Emma Verlander
Tel: (01438) 351053 Fax: (01438) 750116 E-mail: admin@fairlands.herts.sch.uk www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

CURRICULUM INFORMATION



Foundation Stage Spring Term 2009

The Foundation Stage

The Foundation Stage unit comprises the Nursery and Reception classes. The Foundation Stage curriculum is organised into six areas of learning – Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication, Language and Literacy Development, Mathematical Development, Knowledge and Understanding of the World, Physical Development and Creative Development. The Nursery and Reception practitioners work together to plan the provision for the children and progression is maintained through continued, shared observations and assessments.

Outdoor learning is an important part of the Foundation stage curriculum, providing children the opportunity to explore and participate in activities 'on the go'. Equality of opportunity is achieved by enabling the children to access the curriculum both indoors and in the outdoor area.

What are we learning about this term?

This term's theme is 'Living Things'

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This term the children in the foundation stage are learning about caring for living things. Through first hand experience of looking after our tadpoles and our guinea pigs the children will learn to show empathy and will gain an understanding of how to care for a living creature.

They will continue to discuss ways of dealing with difficult situations through circle time and will be given the opportunity to use role-play to explore strategies that they can use in given situation.

They will continue to develop self-help skills by getting themselves dressed and undressed for P.E and by dressing appropriately for the weather and particular activities (e.g putting wellies on if the digging patch is wet, putting an apron on to paint.)

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

In the role play areas children are encouraged to improve their speaking and listening skills and turn taking in conversation. This term we will be reading a selection of information books about mini-beasts and plants. We will be looking at fiction books about story character growing plants.

We will be creating a class book on growing plants and the children will be asked to compose labels and captions both oral and written. They will be encouraged to record plant growth pictorially.

Both nursery and reception will continue to participate in daily phonic sessions. Reception will be starting to use their phonic knowledge to attempt writing using first the initial sound they hear then recording any other sound they hear. They will also be encouraged to use their knowledge of high-frequency words to create sentences.

Reception will continue to receive four words a week to learn to read at home.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

This term the children will be using mathematical language in the role-play areas. In the pet shop there will be the opportunity to measure out dog biscuits, in the vets the children will be encouraged to pay for any treatment given and in our outdoor garden centre they will be asked to write numerals when making price labels.

When growing their own plants the children will be encouraged to measure growth and compare plants using comparative language such as, smaller, shorter, taller. They will be sorting mini beasts according to their properties and will use the spots on ladybirds to add and calculate.

When looking at the books, 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' the children will be learning the days of the week and will be encouraged to sequence them through games and songs.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Knowledge and Understanding of the World includes the areas of History, Geography, Science, Design Technology, RE and Information Technology.

The children will be looking at life-cycle of a frog through first hand experience of looking after tadpoles in the classroom. They will be sequencing pictures and discussing the stages of growth. They will be looking at a variety of mammals and matching animals with their young.

The children will be given many opportunities to grow plants including, herbs, sunflowers and cress. They will then be able to demonstrate their knowledge on plants in our garden centre.

We will be using the clicker programme to write captions for a class book on mini-beasts and the children will be recording their mini-beast hunt using a digital camera.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

There are two main strands to the development of the children's physical skills, gross motor skills and fine motor skills.

This term we will be creating an obstacle course in our outside area. The children will be given the opportunity to construct using large equipment in our outside construction corner. We will be giving the children a larger area to use wheeled vehicles in by creating a course on the KS1 playground during the day.

Both Nursery and Reception have a daily fine motor skills session 'Finger Skills.' Activities such as threading, tracing, cutting and exploring malleable materials like play dough, clay or gloop help the children strengthen their hands and support them in their growing pencil control.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

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The children will be making a group collage using natural materials and will be investigating natural sculptures using materials from our outside area. We will be encouraging them to be making careful observational drawings of our new pets and plant life around them.

We will be matching movements to music and using a variety of instruments to accompany familiar songs. We will be using our voices, bodies and instruments in the song 'Old Macdonald' which will be performed later in the term.

What else is happening?

SEAL Time

Each term, we focus on a particular aspect of Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning (S.E.A.L). This term, we will be looking at the theme of 'Relationships' and 'Good to be me'.

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Visit to Standalone Farm	TBA



HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
FAIRLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

**Pound Avenue
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SG1 3JA**

Headteacher: Mr Robert Staples BA (Hons) Assistant Headteachers: Miss Michelle Bridge & Miss Emma Verlander
Tel: (01438) 351053 Fax: (01438) 750116 E-mail: admin@fairlands.herts.sch.uk www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

CURRICULUM INFORMATION



Foundation Stage Spring Term 2009

The Foundation Stage

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PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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They will continue to develop self-help skills by getting themselves dressed and undressed for P.E and by dressing appropriately for the weather and particular activities (e.g putting wellies on if the digging patch is wet, putting an apron on to paint.)

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

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We will be creating a class book on growing plants and the children will be asked to compose labels and captions both oral and written. They will be encouraged to record plant growth pictorially.

Both nursery and reception will continue to participate in daily phonic sessions. Reception will be starting to use their phonic knowledge to attempt writing using first the initial sound they hear then recording any other sound they hear. They will also be encouraged to use their knowledge of high-frequency words to create sentences.

Reception will continue to receive four words a week to learn to read at home.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

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When growing their own plants the children will be encouraged to measure growth and compare plants using comparative language such as, smaller, shorter, taller. They will be sorting mini beasts according to their properties and will use the spots on ladybirds to add and calculate.

When looking at the books, 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' the children will be learning the days of the week and will be encouraged to sequence them through games and songs.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

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Games Library	Friday 8.50am 9.10am

Forthcoming Events

Quiz Night	Friday 1 st May
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May
Reception Multi-skills at Barclay School	Thursday 7 th May
Sports Day	Wednesday 17 th June
Family Fun Day	Sunday 5 th July
Open Evening	TBA
Visit to Standalone Farm	TBA



HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
FAIRLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

**Pound Avenue
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG1 3JA**

Headteacher: Mr Robert Staples BA (Hons) Assistant Headteachers: Miss Michelle Bridge & Miss Emma Verlander
Tel: (01438) 351053 Fax: (01438) 750116 E-mail: admin@fairlands.herts.sch.uk www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

CURRICULUM INFORMATION



Foundation Stage Spring Term 2009

The Foundation Stage

The Foundation Stage unit comprises the Nursery and Reception classes. The Foundation Stage curriculum is organised into six areas of learning – Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication, Language and Literacy Development, Mathematical Development, Knowledge and Understanding of the World, Physical Development and Creative Development. The Nursery and Reception practitioners work together to plan the provision for the children and progression is maintained through continued, shared observations and assessments.

Outdoor learning is an important part of the Foundation stage curriculum, providing children the opportunity to explore and participate in activities 'on the go'. Equality of opportunity is achieved by enabling the children to access the curriculum both indoors and in the outdoor area.

What are we learning about this term?

This term's theme is 'Living Things'

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This term the children in the foundation stage are learning about caring for living things. Through first hand experience of looking after our tadpoles and our guinea pigs the children will learn to show empathy and will gain an understanding of how to care for a living creature.

They will continue to discuss ways of dealing with difficult situations through circle time and will be given the opportunity to use role-play to explore strategies that they can use in given situation.

They will continue to develop self-help skills by getting themselves dressed and undressed for P.E and by dressing appropriately for the weather and particular activities (e.g putting wellies on if the digging patch is wet, putting an apron on to paint.)

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

In the role play areas children are encouraged to improve their speaking and listening skills and turn taking in conversation. This term we will be reading a selection of information books about mini-beasts and plants. We will be looking at fiction books about story character growing plants.

We will be creating a class book on growing plants and the children will be asked to compose labels and captions both oral and written. They will be encouraged to record plant growth pictorially.

Both nursery and reception will continue to participate in daily phonic sessions. Reception will be starting to use their phonic knowledge to attempt writing using first the initial sound they hear then recording any other sound they hear. They will also be encouraged to use their knowledge of high-frequency words to create sentences.

Reception will continue to receive four words a week to learn to read at home.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

This term the children will be using mathematical language in the role-play areas. In the pet shop there will be the opportunity to measure out dog biscuits, in the vets the children will be encouraged to pay for any treatment given and in our outdoor garden centre they will be asked to write numerals when making price labels.

When growing their own plants the children will be encouraged to measure growth and compare plants using comparative language such as, smaller, shorter, taller. They will be sorting mini beasts according to their properties and will use the spots on ladybirds to add and calculate.

When looking at the books, 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' the children will be learning the days of the week and will be encouraged to sequence them through games and songs.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Knowledge and Understanding of the World includes the areas of History, Geography, Science, Design Technology, RE and Information Technology.

The children will be looking at life-cycle of a frog through first hand experience of looking after tadpoles in the classroom. They will be sequencing pictures and discussing the stages of growth. They will be looking at a variety of mammals and matching animals with their young.

The children will be given many opportunities to grow plants including, herbs, sunflowers and cress. They will then be able to demonstrate their knowledge on plants in our garden centre.

We will be using the clicker programme to write captions for a class book on mini-beasts and the children will be recording their mini-beast hunt using a digital camera.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

There are two main strands to the development of the children's physical skills, gross motor skills and fine motor skills.

This term we will be creating an obstacle course in our outside area. The children will be given the opportunity to construct using large equipment in our outside construction corner. We will be giving the children a larger area to use wheeled vehicles in by creating a course on the KS1 playground during the day.

Both Nursery and Reception have a daily fine motor skills session 'Finger Skills.' Activities such as threading, tracing, cutting and exploring malleable materials like play dough, clay or gloop help the children strengthen their hands and support them in their growing pencil control.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

The children will be role-playing in our 3 new role-play areas; the vets, the pet shop and the garden centre. They will be encouraged to take on a role and create a narrative within the area. Children will be invited to bring in any ailing pet teddies for treatment in our vets.

The children will be making a group collage using natural materials and will be investigating natural sculptures using materials from our outside area. We will be encouraging them to be making careful observational drawings of our new pets and plant life around them.

We will be matching movements to music and using a variety of instruments to accompany familiar songs. We will be using our voices, bodies and instruments in the song 'Old Macdonald' which will be performed later in the term.

What else is happening?

SEAL Time

Each term, we focus on a particular aspect of Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning (S.E.A.L). This term, we will be looking at the theme of 'Relationships' and 'Good to be me'.

Nursery Lunch Club

Nursery lunch club runs from 11.30 am until 12.30pm daily. Your child will have the choice of bringing in a packed lunch or having a hot school dinner followed by games in the Foundation Stage setting. Again, this does not need to be booked in advance but needs to be arranged the morning you bring your child to Nursery. The cost of this facility is £1.85 if you bring your own lunch or £3.45 for a school dinner. There are concessions for children that are entitled to free school meals – please see the office for further details. Children attending Nursery in the afternoon session are also welcome to join us at lunch club and this needs to be booked either the previous day or by 9.00 am. Could you please talk to the Nursery staff before your child starts attending lunch club to be sure they have had time to feel settled.

Supporting Your Child

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In the Foundation Stage a great emphasis is placed on outdoor learning. Now the weather has started to change **ALL** children must bring a sunhat to school and we would advise parents to apply sun cream to their child before school **EVERY** day

Please ensure that your child is in school on time to give them the best start to each day as it can be very unsettling for both your child and others in the class if they arrive after the register has started. We understand that there can be unavoidable circumstances. In this situation, please sign your child in at the Lower Hall door, where there will be a member of staff to greet you, rather than taking them to their class door. This ensures that your child has been registered and minimises disruption. Thank you in advance with your cooperation with this.

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