

Communication and Language

In Minnows the children are discovering the power of their voice. They are learning to speak in full sentences, share their own ideas, and make observations about their learning. Whether in pairs or groups, they are growing in confidence and becoming proud communicators. All children will complete the language link assessment over 2 weeks which you will be given a report for.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be learning to understand and manage our emotions. We' will introduce the Zones of Regulation to help children recognise how they're feeling -whether they're in the blue, green, yellow, or red zone and to explore tools and strategies that support emotional regulation. Talking about our feelings helps us build self-awareness and choose actions that help us feel calm, focused, and ready to learn. Taking turns and using kind hands are a key focus this term.

Physical Development

Children develop gross motor skills through large-scale outdoor movement using equipment like climbing frames which build strength, coordination, and confidence. Risky play encourages decision-making and resilience, while educators guide children to explore safely by setting boundaries and modelling safe behaviour. Fine motor development is supported through large-scale letter formation activities, using tools like chalk or paint to reinforce phonics learning, with each letter introduced alongside a formation phrase to aid memory and correct writing technique.

Literacy

In literacy we will be learning to build full sentences using Colour Semantics. Children are introduced to key question words—Who? Where? What? When?—to help them identify parts of a story and structure their ideas. Using semantic colour-coded cards, they're developing sentence-building skills week by week, strengthening vocabulary and understanding through playful, purposeful talk. Oracy is the key to literacy skills so it is vital that we focus on that first.

In Phonics we will be learning the following single sounds:

s a t p i m n d g o c k e u r h b f l

Please use the phonics home learning to practise these sounds as they are introduced.

Autumn 1 - What makes us unique?

Mathematics

In maths, we will be learning how to match, compare, and explore patterns. Through the "It's Me 1, 2, 3!" theme, children are learning to recognise numbers, compare amounts, and talk about size, length, and quantity. They are also beginning to spot and create patterns, building early mathematical thinking in fun and meaningful ways.

Understanding the World

We will be learning lots about ourselves and others. We are exploring the roles people play in our families and communities, and beginning to understand how we're all unique. Through stories, celebrations, and shared experiences, children are discovering different cultures and important events, helping them build respect, empathy, and a sense of belonging.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children are exploring portraits by identifying and drawing features of the face, using simple shapes to build their drawings. They're also experimenting with colour mixing, discovering how to create new shades and tones to bring their artwork to life.

Art Appreciation: Pablo Picasso