

## Sycamore Group Curriculum 1<sup>st</sup> Half Aut Term 2017

Our topic for this term is *All About Me*.

What we will do in school	What you could do together at home
<p><b>Social Communication Skills</b>            We have a constant focus on encouraging the children to be effective communicators, all day, every day no matter what the lesson. For our <b>'language partners'</b> we will encourage them to use subject-verb-object (SVO) phrases to request and to comment both with adults and with peers. We will use symbols to help them to recognise and label their feelings.            For our <b>'conversation partners'</b> we will encourage them to talk in clear sentences both to the adults, and amongst themselves.            Through the Zones of Regulation, the children will be taught identify their feelings and how to choose tools to regulate them.</p> <p><b>Sycamore Group have Occupational Therapist Clare Donohoe as our class therapist this year.</b> She will oversee all of the children's therapy needs, and will spend every Wednesday morning with us. As well as supporting the children's individual needs, she will work on their social interaction skills through lots of fun and physical games in the hall.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If your child is at the <b>'language partner'</b> level of communication we are happy to provide visual cues to help them communicate more effectively with you at home.</li> <li>• Label your child's emotions for them, say 'You look happy/sad/ worried'</li> <li>• If your child is at the <b>'conversation partner'</b> level of communication encourage them to talk to you - to ask you clearly for things they want; to describe what they are doing...</li> <li>• Encourage use of full sentences and model use of new and interesting words.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Science</b>            The children will learn about the <b>five senses</b> and which parts of the body are associated with each sense. They will learn to use their senses to explore their surroundings, to conduct simple experiments and to record their observations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk to your child about what senses they are using when e.g. they are eating, shopping, playing in the park...</li> <li>• Can they tell you which parts of their bodies are they using?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Humanities</b>            The children will study <b>where they live and go to school</b>. They will use maps, Google Earth and aerial photographs, as well as fieldwork skills to identify the key human and physical features. Some of the children will practice using simple compass directions to describe location of features.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help your child to learn their address. (Tell them never to tell it to strangers). Go on Google Earth together - can they spot your house on the aerial photograph? What features can they see around? Go for a walk and find the different features and road names together.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Art</b> The children will learn about the work of some <b>famous portrait artists</b> including Picasso, Matisse and Warhol, and experiment with their different techniques.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If your child enjoys drawing, encourage them to have a go at drawing or painting portraits of family or friends.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Literacy</b> The children will explore a variety of <b>poems about the senses</b>. They will learn to recognise rhyme, and to use a variety of describing words. In our <i>weekend news sessions</i> the children will practice their communication skills as they take turns to tell their news. They will be encouraged to compose a sentence and record using words or symbols. In phonics the children will practise letter sounds and learn to use them to read and spell words. They will read to an adult at least once a week.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Please write in your child's home-school book to let us know what they have done over the weekend.</b></li> <li>• Encourage your child to read their reading book, or any other book, with you if they are willing, and make a note of how they got on in their yellow reading diary.</li> <li>• Play phonics computer games e.g. <a href="http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/">http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/</a></li> <li>• Encourage your child to write e.g. shopping lists, birthday cards, reminders...</li> </ul>
<p><b>Maths</b> The children will be taught about <b>place value</b>. They will <b>count to 100</b> forwards and backwards, read and write numbers, and represent <b>two digit numbers</b> (e.g. 18, 25, 68) using counting equipment. They will practice <b>addition and subtraction</b> and apply this to real life problems. We will practise counting in <b>10s, 5s and 2s</b>. Measuring work will focus on <b>length and weight</b>. They will be taught to compare objects using mathematical vocabulary including longest, shortest, heavier than, lighter than. In work on <b>shape</b> they will be taught to identify and describe the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Point out numbers in the environment and ask your child to read them. Count things together in 2s, 5s or 10s e.g. how many toes have our family got altogether? How many pieces of cutlery are on the table? How many cars in the carpark?</li> <li>• Use the language of length e.g. who has the <i>longest</i> socks? Can you cut me a <i>shorter</i> piece of string? Is your hair <i>longer</i> than mine?</li> <li>• Challenge your child to spot shapes in the environment.</li> </ul>



Sycamore Group will be using the Forest School facilities at Slated Row every **Tuesday morning** starting on 19<sup>th</sup> September up until October half-term.

Please send your child in warm clothes, and provide a pair of wellies and warm waterproof coat. They are very likely to get muddy so you may like to provide waterproof trousers and/or a change of clothes.

### Spare Clothes

Your child will have opportunities to engage in sensory activities including messy play with water, sand, paint, etc on a daily basis. Although the children are encouraged to wear aprons, accidents do happen! Please send a spare set of clothes [**named please!**] for your child in case they should need to change.



## Home-School Book

We will try to write in the home-school book as often as possible to let you know anything we think you would like or need to hear about your child's day. We will also put important letters in the book. **Please check the book every day.**

**Remember - the Home- School book is for you too!** Please feel free to write what your child has been up to at home, any new achievements and any concerns or questions you may have. If your child has missed breakfast, or had a bad night's sleep - please let us know so that we can care for them accordingly.

**Thank you** for taking the time to read this term's information. If you have any other queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.

*Claire, Jo and the Sycamore Team, Angela, Amy, Linda, John and Wendy*



Claire



Jo



Angela



Amy



Linda



John



Wendy