

Laurel Group Parent Information - Autumn Term

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

What we will do in school:	What you could do together at home:
<p><u>Communication & Language</u> Communication is central to all our work and we will continue to create communication opportunities for your child. Your child will also work regularly on their individual speech and language therapy targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to read your child's PECs book with them regularly. • Try to encourage and motivate your child to communicate, e.g. by putting their favourite toy on a high shelf, so they have to request help to get it.
<p><u>Physical Development</u> We will be encouraging your child to move freely, with pleasure and confidence through our units on Gym and Dance. We will be developing their fine motor skills through Finger Gym. We will be experimenting with different foods in cooking.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to develop your child's fine motor skills by encouraging them to use play dough, open and close containers, squeeze pegs, etc. • Bake with your child at home and encourage them to try different foods.
<p><u>Personal, Social & Emotional Development</u> The staff will be focusing on getting to know your children this term and building up relationships with them. We will be encouraging the children to explore their new class environment and to work and play alongside their new peers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take your child out to parks, play centres etc and encourage them to play alongside others.
<p><u>Literacy</u> The children will start to have regular morning reading sessions. They will listen to both fiction and non-fiction texts based around the "All About Me" topic. They will be given regular mark making opportunities and will work on name recognition/tracing/writing. In Phonics we will be revising "Letters and Sounds" Phase 1 (voice and alliteration sounds) and then starting Phase 2 (letter sounds).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share stories with your child. • Try to read your child's reading book with them at least once a week.
<p><u>Maths</u> We will be focusing on number in the first half term. We will recite numbers, count objects to 20 and learn to match numerals to quantities. In the second half term we will start to develop the children's knowledge of shape.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to notice numbers in the environment e.g. clock faces, bus numbers, price tags, etc. • Count items together. • Make shapes out of play dough.
<p><u>Understanding the World</u> The children will learn about their new class, their body, families, homes, foods and celebrations. They will also start to be more confident and independent around the computers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practise labelling body parts, e.g. play "Simon Says". • Encourage your child to be aware of the different rooms in your home and what they are used for. • Practise naming family members.
<p><u>Expressive Arts & Design</u> The children will have their first lessons with Kevin (our new music teacher). The children will look at images of their faces and try to represent them in different ways. They will experiment with mixing colours.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage children to know their facial features, e.g. look in the mirror together or sing "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes". • Label different colours together.



Swimming:

Laurel Group will be going swimming at **Woughton Pool** on **Fridays**. Please send your child into school every **Friday** with:

- a swimming costume/trunks
- a towel
- in a bag that is large enough for them to put all their clothes into.



Please send a PE kit (any comfortable shorts and T-shirt) in a bag to keep in school. We will send it home every half-term for you to wash.

Spare Clothes

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



Home/School Book

We will check the Home /School Book every day and respond to any queries you have. Your child's keyworker will write in the Home/School Book at least twice a week to let you know what your child has been doing, what they have eaten, how they have been, and anything else we think you would like to hear about. We will also put important letters in the book. **Please check the book every day.**

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 parent information. If you have any other queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Angie, Linda, Vanessa and Carmen.