


Cypress group

Dear Parent,

Here is an overview of what we will be doing this term and what you could do at home to support your child.

Our topic this term is Past and Present.

What we will do in school...		What you could do together at home...
<p>Science</p> <p>We will be looking at the different seasons and comparing them.</p> <p>We will be learning to create our own simple experiments and record our findings in a chart.</p>	 	<p>Go on walks and point out seasonal changes for example 'there are no leaves on the trees because it is winter'</p> <p>Create simple surveys with your child at home, you could record how many different colour Smarties are in a pack or what your family's favourite colours are. Try creating a tally chart or a block graph.</p>
<p>History</p> <p>In history, this term, cypress group will be looking at the Victorians. We will be looking at Victorian children's toys and school life and comparing them to today's.</p>		<p>Look at the BBC Primary History website with your child where you can share videos and read information about the Victorians.</p> <p>Discuss the past and show children photos of when you or they were younger.</p>
<p>English</p> <p>In English we will be reading the book 'Lost in the Toy Museum' by David Lucas. We will be working on our comprehension skills as well as forming sentences. We will also continue to practice our phonics.</p> <p>Every Monday we will be writing our weekend news reports, as this helps with sentence formation.</p>		<p>Share books at home with your children. Encourage your children to form interesting sentences verbally.</p> <p>Write what your child did at the weekend in their home school book, and then we can help them form interesting sentences about their weekend.</p>
<p>Art and design</p> <p>Cypress group will be exploring different materials and their uses. Children will be challenged to design and make some toys from the past. We will be using a range of materials to create different patterns and textures.</p>		<p>Talk to your children about different materials and how they feel.</p> <p>Point out patterns in everyday objects and try to discuss and point out colours.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> <p>We will be encouraging the children to identify how they are feeling and choose appropriate coping strategies for when they are feeling anxious, angry or sad.</p> <p>We will also be looking at what makes a good friend and building up our confidence by identifying things we like about ourselves.</p>		<p>Label your child's emotions as they display them. For instance, tell them they look happy when they are smiling. Talk about how their favourite characters might be feeling when watching cartoons.</p> <p>Identify when your child does something well and list their qualities.</p>
<p>Maths</p> <p>We will continue to work on our counting and number skills. We will be focusing on how Numicon can help us with our calculations and building number sentences. We will be revisiting shape and measure and, in particular, looking at length and weight and how we can use the term 'longest and shortest' or 'heaviest and lightest' to compare. Some of us will use non-standard units of measure.</p>		<p>Use comparative terms at any opportunity, for example 'the apple is the heaviest' or 'the slide is the longest'.</p> <p>Count with your child at any opportunity. You can also create simple questions for your child to solve, for example 'If I have five sweets and you gave me two more how many do I have in total?'</p>



Swimming - every Wednesday

Cypress Group will be going swimming on Wednesdays (after half-term). Please send your child into school every Wednesday with:

- a swimming costume/trunks
- a towel
- soap for washing themselves and moisturising if needed
- A bag that is large enough for them to put all their clothes into.



PE - every Monday

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 try to write in the home-school book every day 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 their day. We will also put important letters in the book.

Please read 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 (breakfast can be arranged if needed).

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

Ruth and the Cypress team