Mathematics:

During our maths lessons this half term, the children will:

* Match, sort and compare
* Talk about measure and patterns
* Investigate the numbers 1,2 and 3

At the beginning of each lesson, the children take part in an arithmetic session where we focus on gaining a deep understanding of our numbers up to 10. They are then taken in groups to complete their topic learning. The children will be learning practically through joint and independent investigation and exploration. We also practice our number formation daily.

Reading:

The children take part in daily systematic synthetic phonics lessons, in which they learn to read through the use of the Floppy’s phonics scheme. This term we will be starting the scheme, beginning with the level one, single letter sounds.

The children’s love of reading will also be enhanced through the high-quality fiction and non-fiction texts available to the children throughout provision, during writing sessions, topic sessions and of course story time. The books available to the children this term will be linked to our topic ‘Marvellous Me’. The children will also be bringing home a book they have picked from the library, along with their reading book, to share and enjoy with an adult.

**Autumn 1**

**Marvellous Me**

Physical Development:

During P.E this term we will be focusing on developing our gross motor skills through multi skills sessions. This will involve practicing throwing, catching, dribbling and passing.

Understanding of the World

Within our topic ‘Marvellous Me’ the children will be thinking about their immediate environment. We will discuss the lives of the people around us and their roles in society, thinking about who helps us and how. We will also discuss where we live and our surroundings, thinking about what we can explore and how it has changed over time. As well as this, we will be thinking about the body, how we change and grow and the things we need to do to keep ourselves safe and healthy.

Writing:

During the first Autumn term, Starfish class will be focusing on letter formation. In order to practice forming our letters correctly we will be completing literacy activities which involve sequencing, drawing and writing initial letter sounds. We will be using the texts Monkey Puzzle, Funny Bones, Once there were Giants, Owl Babies and The Very Helpful Hedgehog in order to create these pieces of writing.

Religious Education:

During our R.E sessions we will be thinking about the big question ‘Where do we belong?’ In order to answer this question, we will be thinking about what makes us feel special and the groups we belong to. We will also be thinking about how love is shown in the Christian, Muslim and Hindu religion.

French:

This term, the children will be learning different French greetings and phrases through songs and rhymes.

Expressive Art and Design:

This term we will be studying the artist Andy Goldsworthy and creating our own art inspired by his work.

For our D.T project we will be creating healthy smoothies.

As well as this, we will be creating self-portraits, drawing our families, creating models of the people in our lives and building our favourite places.

We will also be learning and performing songs across all our subjects and areas including those about harvest time, the body and healthy eating.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

In class this term we will be focusing on new beginnings. We will be thinking about ourselves as individuals and the class rules and routines. We will think about building relationships in our new class and controlling own feeling and behaviours. We will address the importance of thinking before acting and trying to curb impulsive behaviours. We will also be working on taking turns and working cooperatively.

In collective worship we focus on a Christian value each week. These values then form the basis of discussion, story sharing and the setting of class targets.

In PSHE sessions, we will be using the scheme ‘Time to Talk’.

Forest School:

This term during forest school the children will be learning tool skills. This will involve:

* Safely peeling a stick using a knife
* Safely using a saw
* Safely using loppers
* Safely using a froe
* Safely using secateurs
* Demonstrating fore hand grip
* Shaping a stick to a point using a knife
* Flattening one side of a stick
* Making a hoop using natural material
* Carving a wooden knife

Communication and Language:

Communication and language is developed throughout the year through high quality speaking and listening interactions, daily group discussions within a variety of subjects such as PSHE sessions, story time, singing, speech and language interventions and assemblies.

IT:

This term, the children will be focusing on algorithms and programming. This will involve using bee-bots and other devices, following symbol instructions and predicting events.

Educational Visits:

This term, we will be exploring Brockadale Woods and our local area of Kirk Smeaton. We will also be going to church for a service.

Enhancements:

As well as thinking about the subjects surrounding our topic for this term, we will also be thinking about new beginnings, the seasonal changes of autumn and bonfire night.

How you can help at home:

Reading is the best thing you can do with your child at home! The children will be sent home every Friday with a reading book and phonics sheet, both linked to the sounds they have learnt. It is so important that the children are read with at home as much as possible, to ensure the sounds they have learnt and the skills of segmenting and blending are embedded. It only has to be a few minutes, but it will make all the difference. The reading book is meant to be read several times to encourage fluency and the phonics sheet can also be done several times throughout the week to ensure knowledge and skills are embedded.

Parent Sessions:

This term, we would like to invite parents into school for 3 ‘Stay and Play’ sessions. These sessions will take place on a morning, at drop off time, from **8.40am until 9.00am**.

The first session will take place on **Thursday 10th October**. This session will give you the opportunity to explore the inside and outside provision with the children.

The second session will take place on **Thursday 17th of October**. This session will focus on reading and I will talk through the Floppy’s Phonics scheme used within EYFS.

The third session will take place on **Thursday 24th October**. This session will focus on maths and I will introduce you to the White Rose scheme used within school.

Each session will also include time for you to use the provision with the children and so are lovely opportunities for the children to share their new learning with their adults.