Nursery: Spring 1 WHAT WILL YOUR CHILD LEARN THIS HALF TERM?

Topic: Seasons Change Key Question: How can we dress for different seasons?

LITERACY

Texts:
The Snowy Day
A Stroll Through the Seasons
The Sun and the Wind

We will continue learning about five important ideas about print:Print has meaning.Print can be used for different purposes.In English, we read from left to right and from top to bottom.The names of the different parts of a book, as well as the seasons.The order of the pages, what they can observe in the pictures, and how to express what they think will happen or is happening.These ideas will support the children in developing a stronger understanding of language as we explore the world around them and the stories we share. We will also continue to practise listening for words that begin with the same sound to build their phonological awareness.

MATHEMATICS

We aim to develop a strong grounding in number, so that all children build the essential foundations to excel mathematically.
This term, the children will focus on reciting numbers from 0 to 10, recognising and writing the numerals, and sequencing numbers correctly using their fingers to support them.

We will also encourage the children to talk about and identify the patterns they see around them, such as stripes on clothing or designs on materials and mats.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

We will be exploring the theme of Winter as part of our learning about the changing seasons. The children will spend time outdoors observing the characteristics of winter and comparing them with the other seasons.
We will encourage questioning and discovery, building on the children's prior knowledge of the natural world. Finally, we will begin to explore how water changes state into ice and snow, and how it melts again, linking these observations to seasonal changes.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

The children will work independently as well as collaboratively with their peers to create larger pictures for our classroom displays. We will encourage them to develop their sense of rhythm and enjoyment of music and dance by providing access to a variety of musical instruments for them to explore freely.
They will also explore colour and be encouraged to develop their artistic flair. In addition, there will be endless opportunities for role play and small-world play (home corner, animals, train tracks, cars, doll houses), allowing the children to use their imagination and develop rich stories in their play.

PERSONAL SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL

We aim to support the children in forming new relationships, developing a strong sense of self, and building their self-confidence. We will encourage them to find appropriate ways to manage their feelings and behaviour in social situations, and to become increasingly independent through the use of the 6Rs and the Zones of Regulation.
They will learn how to look after the environment, themselves, and their peers. There will also be many opportunities for the children to make their own choices and to reflect on them.
We will be celebrating Children's Mental Health Week and learning about how to take care of our mental health.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

We will begin by teaching the children about the importance of personal hygiene and regular exercise. They will learn how to use the outdoor balancing and climbing equipment safely, as well as take part in whole-group movement sessions.

The children will engage in dance-based activities set to music, along with Yoga sessions to promote calmness and support their ability to follow instructions.
There will also be a strong focus on developing early writing skills through a range of fine motor activities, such as Funky Fingers, to strengthen the muscles in their hands in preparation for purposeful mark-making.

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

We will continue to model language that promotes thinking by using open-ended questions to encourage deeper responses.
Using our topic, we will extend the children's vocabulary by explaining unfamiliar or scientific words related to the weather and the seasons.
We will also encourage the children to use sentences joined with words such as because, or, and and. For example: "I must wear my coat because it is cold outside."

PHONICS SOUNDS AND TRICKY WORDS

We will continue introducing Set 1 phonics of ReadWriteInc.
We will introduce the children to a new sound each week. They will explore alliteration and rhymes linked to our target sounds. We will also continue to learn and practise letter sounds through our weekly sound exploration tray.