

Birkrigg – Autumn 1

We are very pleased with how all the children are settling in to school.

Our topic this term is **Fairy Tales**.

Miss Turner is the class teacher; Mrs Rigg is the teaching assistant and Mrs Shepherd is a support assistant. Miss Hayter will teach the children on a Tuesday afternoon.

Literacy

In Literacy we will be focusing on fairy tales and reading well known fairy tales such as Jack and the Beanstalk, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Gingerbread Man and The Enormous Turnip. We will be doing lots of story sequencing, retelling the stories and thinking about what the characters in the stories are like.

Maths

To begin with children will do lots of activities involving matching and sorting, then comparing amounts as well as comparing size, mass and capacity. They will also explore pattern. Plenty of opportunities will be given for the children to practise their counting as we move on to activities that involve representing numbers.

Understanding the World

We are going to get some seeds and bulbs planted in our outdoor area and even grow our own beanstalks! We will think about the season of Autumn and what changes happen in Autumn. Towards the end of the half term, we will look closely at vegetables, think about how they grow and use them in our Art. We also hope to do some baking and cooking!

RE

Our topic this half term is 'why are we special to God?' We will start by thinking about why we are all special and about belonging – family and school. Later in the half term we will explore harvest and why Christians celebrate harvest.

PHSE

We will focus on settling in, thinking about how we are feeling, and getting to know each other. We will also begin to think about rules and boundaries within our classroom and school.

Music

Children will be learning to sing a variety of well-known nursery rhymes and songs, adding actions as we go along. Using the Interactive White Board (IWB), they will play copycat rhythm games.

Expressive Arts and Design

There are opportunities daily for the children to explore drawing and painting independently. The children will also be painting self-portraits for a classroom display and exploring printing patterns using shapes and vegetables. There will be lots of chances for investigation, for example, making a harp (Jack and the Beanstalk), or for junk modelling, for example, a bed for Goldilocks.

Computing

Many of the children have already played some games on the classroom desktop computer which focus on developing their mouse skills. There is also a 'Paint' programme they can access both on the desktop and the IWB. We will also gradually introduce the internet software Purple Mash and they will be given time to explore the content. To start with, this will be the 'paint' projects in the Early Years section.

PE

We have two hall times, Monday and Thursday afternoons. This half term we will be doing dance and a variety of games. We can also use the hall for circle time and parachute games.

Please ensure your child has a full PE kit in school at all times (red T-shirt, black shorts and pumps) and all items are clearly labelled with their name. Long hair must be tied back, and jewellery removed.

Weather permitting, we also hope to use the bikes and scooters on the school playground and get out onto the school field weekly (Friday afternoons).

Please can you ensure that your child has a waterproof coat in school at all times. A pair of wellies would also be very useful.

If you have any further questions please feel free to come and speak to me.

We will be using a secure digital platform called Tapestry to share some of the children's work with you. Please read the information about it .

Miss Turner