

Year | Autumn | IIth September 2017 — 20th October 2017

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	Traditional Stories — Chicken Licken
	Your child is learning to retell the story of Chicken Licken. They will then develop their own 'warning tale' using this traditional story as the starting point. Each day they will practise writing complete sentences; with sentence openers (e.g. First, Next), con junctions (e.g. and, because), and appropriate punctuation. They will use ideas and describing words of their own; and become accustomed to always checking their work afterwards.
	You could support by asking your child to retell you the story at home. They should use full sentences, describing words and expression in their voice.
Writing	Nelson Handwriting
	Your child is practising with their 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. Pupils are writing number digits and single letters, joined up letters that make a single sound, words and full sentences.
	You could support by continuing to practise upper and lower case letters at home, as appropriate.
Reading	Sounds-Write (Phonics) Your child is practising their skills of: • segmenting (breaking words apart. e.g. plank is p-l-a-n-k); • blending (putting sounds together to make words. e.g. s-p-e-n-t is spent); and • phoneme manipulation e.g. In 'eat' the <ea> makes the /ee/ sound, while in 'break' it makes the /ae/ sound.</ea>
	Guided Reading (Comprehension)
	Your child is also doing guided reading as part of a small group of six children and an adult, They will practise reading with fluency and expressions. Afterwards they will talk about the text - recalling facts, inferring beyond the words, and discussing the content more broadly.
	You could support by listening to your child read their phonic book every night at home, and by reading harder texts to your child — which you can then discuss together.
Mathematics	Your child will be exploring numbers to 10 and gaining a deeper understanding of basic number concepts. They will focus on number bond knowledge and using it to create number word problems as well as learning to add and subtract confidently. In Year I we will then move onto learning positions e.g. first, second, third.
	You could support by using the language and concepts described above, at home.

	In R.E. your child is learning about creation stories from various world religions.
Core Knowledge	In Science your child is learning about internal body parts and about animals that have some senses that are particular strong e.g. Moles who cannot see but have touch receptors in their noses!
	In Geography pupils are learning about spatial sense. This includes the idea that a map is a representation on an aerial view. They will look at maps of different scales e.g. the world, Europe, the United Kingdom, London, our local area, our classroom. Children will use words to describe location e.g. above, next to and forwards, as well as North, South, East and West.
	You could support at home by talking about and using maps, and showing your child how useful and interesting they can be. Use positional language e.g. "come and sit beside me", or "who is below him"?
Character	Your child is learning about self-control, bravery and love and kindness. Pupils are listening to and talking about stories with these character virtues and then putting them into practise in the classroom and around the wider school.
	You could support by asking your child how they showed self-control today. You could also encourage them to always speak with a confident voice while making eye contact, and to think about what kind hands would do in different tricky situations.
Art	Your child is learning about elements of colour. This includes primary colours and how to mix secondary colours; warm and cool colours; and tinting paint so that it's lighter and darker. After this pupils will learn about David Hockney's painting called A Bigger Splash, and one of Monet's paintings of the sea.
	You could support by talking to your child about how different colours make them feel. Use the language of dark and light to describe the sunset or parts of the moon.
Music	Your child sings with their class every day, as well as in their weekly music lesson, where they are learning to sing rounds, and to clap rhythms and beats. Pupils will also be continuing to learn the recorder with our specialist teacher.
	You could support by singing songs together as a family clapping a rhythm as you sing. Try 'A Sailor went to Sea Sea' www.youtube.com/watch?v=6TOGg-kCU8c
P.E. and Dance	Your child is developing their coordination and control through the development of ball skills in Tennis lessons. They are developing rolling, patting, bouncing, kicking, steering, throwing and catching skills They are also exploring how their body can move safely as part of a dancing group, and how to move in time with music.
	Please ensure your child eats a healthy, balanced diet and arrives at school having eaten a nutritious breakfast. Details of our breakfast club are available from the School Office.