



Acorn Class Miss Brockwell

Dear Parent/ Carer,

The theme of our Topic work this term will be India. This is a whole school topic which Sapling and Oak classes will be exploring too.

What we will be doing

This term we will be finding out all about life in India. We will be comparing our lives, environment and experiences with those of children living in India.

Why we will be doing it

This topic offers an opportunity for the children to make comparisons between their own lives, environments and experiences and those of children in another country. We will be exploring the full range of environments in India, from jungles, to deserts, rural villages to big cities. We will also be looking at Hinduism and building up towards a whole school day celebrating the Hindu festival of Holi. This term our focus will be on extending the children's Understanding of the World and Literacy skills through writing about the things they have found out.

How you can help

In Literacy this term we will be continuing to focus on helping the children use their phonic knowledge to read and write words independently, building up to recording whole sentences. You can support this at home by continuing to use 'sound talk' to emphasise how words are made up of sounds, this means sounding out some important words in a sentence instead of saying the word, for example 'would you like ch-i-p-s' or 'it's time for a b-a-th'. Please also encourage your child to have a go at writing wherever possible, including labelling pictures they have drawn, writing cards and messages and writing shopping lists. We will also be focusing on correct letter formation this term, you can support this at home by encouraging your child to use a sound card the reference the shapes of the letters they need if unsure.

Reception Literacy Skills Goals this term:
To use a pencil and holds it effectively to form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.
To use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds.
To write short sentences.

In Maths we will begin by focussing on our counting and number skills this term. We will continue our work on addition and subtraction and identifying numbers 1-10. Later on in the term we will be moving on to numbers 11-20 and then spending a few weeks exploring

identifying coins. You can support these skills at home by encouraging your child to handle coins to make small purchases and pointing out examples of numbers between 1 and 20.

Reception Maths Skills Goals this term:

To recognise numerals 1-10.

To use objects to add and subtract two numbers between 1 and 9.

To recognise, write and order numbers to 20.
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To begin to use everyday language related to money.

In Topic we will be using the book 'Letters Home from India' which follows a child's journey around a number of different Indian cities. In their letters they mention local landmarks, traditions, foods, animals and industries which we will use as a starting point for our own investigations.

We will be finding out about the similarities and differences between our own experiences and those of Indian children in each region. In Geography we will be finding out about the different environments and climates in different areas of India. In Science we will be discovering the wide variety of animals in each different environment. In PSCHEEe we will be exploring the experiences of children in different areas of India, i.e. in rural villages and in big cities. In RE we will be finding out about the different religions followed in India and how they have shaped Indian culture, including the Muslim emperor who built the Taj Mahal, the significance of the Ganges for Hindus and the Buddhist monasteries at the foothills of the Himalayan Mountains. We will be focusing predominately on Hinduism as the majority religion in India and building up towards a whole school celebration of the Festival of Holi on Monday 13th March.

At home you can support our topic work by encouraging your child to continue to explore the aspects of the topic which interest them most in further detail and sharing the multi-cultural influences (not just Indian) all around them.

Reception Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design Skills Goals this term:
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To know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.

To talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another.

To use tuned instruments in a shared composition.

To make music and dance and experiment with ways of changing them.
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To understand that different people have different beliefs, attitudes, customs and traditions and why it is important to treat them with respect.

To explore how others celebrate special events and identify similarities with our own lives.
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