Our topic is: Easter and Spring The Stone value that we are focusing on this term is respect.

Learning skills that all children across the school are practising this half term:

Asking for help, Reflection, Taking feedback



Communication and Language

As a class we will discuss and describe the signs of Spring and create a class mind map. We will go on a Spring hunt and talk about what we discover. We will discuss the new life that appears in Spring, learn about life on the farm on our trip and talk about and describe what we saw at the farm back at school. We will also develop our prepositional language by describing where the Easter eggs are hidden outside.

Listening and Attention

Listens to others one to one or in small groups.

Listen attentively in a range of situations

To give attention to what others say and respond appropriately.

Understanding

Listen and respond to ideas expressed by others in conversations or discussion.

To answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to events.

To follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.

Speaking

Link statements and stick to a main theme or intention.

Use talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events.

To express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs.

To use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.

Physical Development

We will be developing our fine motor skills by creating Easter arts and crafts involving cutting and sticking. We will also be trying finger painting, wax-resist painting techniques and decorating with sequins. The children will have the opportunity to create dances to demonstrate the end of winter and beginning of spring, thinking about new life and blossoming flowers. They will also be able to explore different ways of moving as represented by spring events, activities and objects e.g. jumping like a bunny, growing tall like a flower and skipping like a lamb.

Moving & Handling

To show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements.

To move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space.

Handle equipment and tools effectively

Negotiate space successfully, adjusting speed or changing direction

Use simple tools to effect changes to materials

Experiment with different ways of moving

Travel with confidence and skill.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will talk about the changes from winter to spring and discuss how the children have changed. We will be sharing our own experiences of Spring and Easter, what they like to do and see and how they celebrate Easter at home. We will make our own Easter cards to give to friends and family. We will also work as a team to find Spring animals and Easter eggs hidden outside.

Making Relationships

Initiate play, offering cues for peers to join them

Keeps play going by responding to what others are saying or doing

Explains own knowledge and understanding, and asks appropriate questions of others

Children play co-operatively, taking turns with others

Take account of one another's ideas about how to organise their activity

To show sensitivity to others' needs and feelings

Self Confidence and Self Awareness

They are confident to speak in a familiar group, will talk about their ideas, and will choose the resources they need for their chosen activities.

Managing Feelings and Behaviour

To negotiate and solve problems

To work as part of a group or class

Maths

We will be focusing on estimation and estimating how many Spring objects we can see and check by counting them. We will be looking at and describing patterns on Easter eggs and trying to re-create our own. The children will be using positional language to describe where the Eggs are hidden. We will also begin to looking at problems involving halving and sharing.

Numbers

Estimate how many objects they can see and check by counting them.

Begins to identify own mathematical problems based on own interests and fascinations.

Records using marks that they can interpret and explain

Solve problems involving halving and sharing.

Shape, space and measure

To describe the relative position such as 'behind' or 'next to'

To compare quantities and objects

To recognise, create and describe patterns

Literacy

We will be learning about the Easter story and try sequencing it into the correct order. We will be discussing the story as a class and talking about what we learnt and understood from the story. We will continue to practice blending and segmenting the sounds in Spring words and write captions and sentences about what we see in Spring and about what we saw on the farm.

Reading

Segment the sounds in simple words and blend them together.

To read and understand simple sentences.

To use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read aloud accurately.

To read some common irregular words

Writing

Hears and says the initial sounds in words.

Use some clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning, representing some sounds correctly and in sequence.

To write sentences which can be read by themselves and others.

To write some words correctly and others phonetically plausible.

Expressive Arts & Design

We will have a selection of instruments available for the children to experiment making the sounds of spring. The children will be able to create their own Spring pictures and artwork of our farm trip. We will collect natural objects to create some sculptures and use sticks and leaves with paint to create our own natural paintbrushes. We will sing some Easter songs in preparation for our Easter service at the church. We will also use different materials to decorate our own Easter eggs.

Exploring & Using Media and Materials

Explore the different sounds of instruments

Explore what happens when they mix colours

Manipulates materials to achieve a planned effect

Selects appropriate resources and adapts work where necessary

To safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture form and function.

Being Imaginative

Chooses particular colour to use for a purpose

Create simple representations of events, people and objects.

Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes.

Understanding of the World

We will be looking at the Easter story and discussing how others and ourselves celebrate Easter. We will be using our senses to investigate the signs of Spring outside. We will be learning about animals that are associated with Easter, talking about the animals we saw at the farm and discussing animals and their babies. We will also be doing some science investigations looking at similarities, differences, change and making observations of animals and plants.

People and communities

Remembers and talks about significant events in their own experience.

Recognise and describes special times or events for family and friends.

Texts:

A Squash and a Squeeze-Julia Donaldson

A Tiny Seed- Eric Carle

The Very Hungry Caterpillar- Eric Carle

Daisy and the Egg- Jane Simmons

Underwater Farmyard- Carol Ann Duffs

Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type- Doreen Cronin

The Pig in the Pond- Martin Waddell

How to Speak Moo- Deborah Fayerman

Farm 1,2,3- Rod Campbell

Ideas for activities at home:

- Write a list of animals that often live on farms.
 Can you write the name of their babies too?
- Can you think of any words that rhyme with the name of different farm animals e.g. pig, twig and cow, bow etc.
- Can you make up your own Spring maths problems and solve them e.g. I have 12 Easter eggs to share with Mrs Roberts, Mrs Shurrock and I. How many Easter eggs will we have each? You could even draw a picture to help you solve your problems.
- Go for a walk with a grown-up and look out for

Enjoys joining in with routines and customs.

To talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members.

The World

Can talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects.

Talks about why things happen and how things work.

Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change

To make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur and talk about changes.

Warning! This book may contain rabbits- Tim Wares

Tractor- Annabel Savery

Farm animals- Franklin Watts

Fundamental British

Values: - Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

The children will learn about the Easter story and the Christian faith at Easter. We will share how we and other families, communities celebrate Easter. We will also be exploring the world around us by visiting a local farm.

Key vocabulary:

Easter, Spring, farm, animals, blossom, changes, new life, growing, Christians, eggs, church, behind, next to, in front of, on top, underneath, patterns, half, share, estimate, senses, changes.

- any signs of Spring. You could draw a picture of what you saw or take some photographs.
- Make a weather chart to show what the spring weather is like.
- Draw some observational pictures of Spring flowers. Remember to draw the petals, a stem and some leaves on your flower.
- Can you make your own basket at home to hold some Easter treats? You could use a cardboard box and decorate it.
- Easter starts with the letter 'e' what else can you think of that starts with the letter 'e'? How many things can you think of?