



The World Around Us

(Science, Technology, Geography and History.)

Our themes for this term are '**Once Upon a Time**' and '**Toy Story**'.

We are embarking upon our first topic '**Once Upon a Time**' which provides lots of opportunities to listen and respond to different fairy tales, such as *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* and *The Gingerbread Man*. We will be discussing the characters in these fairy tales and will retell the stories through role-play and in puppet shows. We will make a 'talking book' of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by recording the children's voices as they retell the story in their own words. The children will also talk about 'stranger danger' in the context of Little Red Riding Hood during Circle Time and we will highlight the people in school who they can talk to. This topic also lends itself to looking back at the children when they were a baby and their journey to being a big boy / girl aged 4 / 5. We will compare the things they liked as a baby and how they have changed over time. In our investigative work we will explore which material is best for Little Red Riding Hood's cape. We will also look at the changes heat can make when cooking porridge and baking Gingerbread Men.

The study of '**Toy Story**' will involve children selecting and showing their favourite toy and discussing what makes it their favourite. We will be identifying what toys are made of, what senses they appeal to and how they move e.g. push, pull, socket/battery electric etc. Children will be researching toys played with by Granny, Grandpa, Mummy, Daddy etc. and sorting toys into categories e.g. shiny/dull, soft/hard, old/new. We will be looking at the similarities/differences in toys now and in the past. Children will identify times when they usually receive toys e.g. birthday, Christmas etc. and will be empathising with children who do not receive toys when we do. As an end product children will design and make a push/pull toy using recycled materials. We will be asking for your help to gather some recycled cereal boxes and cartons later in the term.

What else is happening in the curriculum?

MATHEMATICS AND NUMERACY

We are going to be learning all about the numbers 1 - 5. This will include recognition, formation, grouping and ordering. We will also be learning to count using 1p coins by buying and selling toys through role-play in our 'toy shop'. We will be working on recognising and making patterns and sorting and matching also.

During our Mental Maths sessions we will be counting forwards / backwards within 10 and will also work on ordering and re-ordering numbers up to 10. The Mental maths strategy we will be working on is 'counting on'.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Children will be learning some traditional playground games to keep them busy at break and lunchtimes. '*What time is it Mr. Wolf?*' and '*The farmer wants a wife*' are among our favourite in Year 1. Please ensure your child brings a pair of plimsolls in school.

CLASS RULES

We are working on establishing positive behaviour in Year 1 and will be celebrating it by awarding a child the title of 'Golden Child' each week. The chosen Golden Child will have kept the Golden Rules extremely well and will enjoy wearing their very own crown for the duration of the week (class rules overleaf).

What's going on?

From the 25th September onwards the children will stay in school until 2pm. We are currently helping the children to become familiar with the canteen and the supervisors. We have a visual time table up in the classroom so your child is aware of what is happening throughout the day. We take the children to the toilet frequently throughout the day although if they need the toilet they will always be allowed to go. We encourage them to let us know when they have to go so that we know where they are at all times.

READING BOOKS

After Hallowe'en your child will be bringing home a reading book each day (except Friday) as part of his/her homework. Initially these will be books without words. Please help your child to talk about the pictures and predict what will happen in the story. Further guidance and helpful tips will be given at a '**Reading Workshop**' later in the term.

LINING UP

In the morning we ask you to have your child lined up with all the other classes in the playground. I will then bring the children into the classroom therefore, it is not necessary to escort your child in. This will help develop a sense of independence early on.

Our Golden Rules



We can listen to our teacher and our helper Angela.



We can keep our classroom tidy.



We can sit on our chair carefully.



We can walk in the classroom and the corridor.



We are gentle and kind to our friends.



We can put up our hand when we want to ask a question or answer a question.



We can sit on the mat quietly.