

## **Bananas Class Termly Overview - November 2021**

*Here are a few things we would like to let you know about.*

This term our topic is '**Do you have a favourite teddy**'? We will be learning all about teddy bears and real bears, focusing on a different theme each week. These will include: my teddy bear, bears and their habitats, bears in stories going on a teddy bear hunt and teddy bears picnic. We will also celebrate the season of winter and traditions/festivals, such as Diwali, Bonfire night, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas.

**Outdoor curriculum** - The outdoor area is an important part of our classroom and as such the children will be using it for their learning in all weathers. Please ensure that they come to school dressed appropriately for any weather.

**Messy play** - We love to get messy, and as such accidents may happen. Please ensure your child has a spare set of named clothes in a draw string or carrier bag so that we can change your child's clothes if necessary.

**Swimming** - Will now take place in the New Year as the Covid-19 risk assessment prevents crossing of sites.

**Daily Mile** - A separate letter will be sent home about us taking part in this event. We will begin with a weekly walk to a nearby park.

**Reading** - We love to share stories in Bananas class, and we will be reading the stories Goldilocks, Peace at last, Going on a bear hunt, Can't you sleep little bear and Brown Bear Brown Bear. We will use story sacks, story stones and sensory trays to support our learning and to develop our understanding of the story.

**Maths** - In maths, we will participate in a variety of activities relating to numbers and shape, space, and measure. We will explore and sort a variety of objects, search for numerals hidden in tactile materials, and engage with a wide range of number songs.

Our weekly '**Play Dough Disco**' sessions will support each child to develop their hand and finger strength as they poke, pinch, splat, roll, and squeeze the dough to the song 'If you're happy and you know it!' Developing hand and finger strength will enable the children to engage in '**Kinetic Letters**' activities to develop our handwriting skills. We will also use our magic wands to participate in big air writing.

**Phonics** - Early phonics teaching focuses on children's listening skills. Our daily phonics sessions will focus on environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body percussion, rhythm and rhyme and voice sounds. We will also continue to learn the sounds that letters make

(phonemes). We would be grateful if you could help your child to find something beginning with the letter sound to put in their book bag so that they can show it in class. In these current circumstances we need to request that all items sent in from home are wipeable!

Below is a list of dates and the letter sound for that week:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> November</b> <b>d</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>t</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>i</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> November</b> <b>n</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>p</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> December</b> <b>g</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> December</b> <b>o</b>			

***How you can help***

- *Read to your child/share a book with them every day. Please record this in their reading record*

***Please ensure your child has these items in school every day:***

- *Book bag*
- *Home School Book*
- *Snack & drink/lunch & drink [NO NUTS]*
- *Spare pair of clothes, underwear and socks- all items to be labelled with their name*

*If you have any other concerns or questions, please communicate with us via your child's Home School book.*

*Many Thanks,*

*Ellen & the Bananas class team!*