



Waddesdon Village Primary School
Pathway to Excellence
Year R Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn 1



Topic: All about me

A warm welcome to all parents. Thank you for welcoming us into your homes last week, it was lovely to meet with you all. This is our first curriculum newsletter of the academic year, you will receive a new one each half term with information detailing what we are going to be focusing on in class.

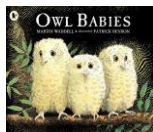
The children's first term at school is such a special and exciting one. To complement this new chapter in their lives and to promote their personal, social and emotional development, we will be reading lots of stories about starting school, new experiences, family and friends, learning class rules and routines, sharing stories about ourselves, learning about our feelings and learning how to keep ourselves safe and healthy. We will also focus on listening to and following instructions.

English and Phonics

This half term, we will be sharing lots of stories about starting school, new experiences, family and friends and nursery rhymes. We will explore the five key concepts of print, as well as, recognising and writing the initial sounds in words and practising mark making including practising writing the letters in our names. We will begin drawing club with the children where we aim to foster a love of drawing and writing.

Our key texts in Drawing Club will be:

The Colour Monster Starts School, The Perfect Fit, Home, My Adventure Island, Leaf Man and Owl Babies.



We will have daily phonics lessons following our phonics scheme **Essential Letters and Sounds**

Weekly schedule

- Monday: Miss King teaching
Reading books come home (Beginning 15th September)
- Tuesday: Miss King teaching
Library visit
- Wednesday: Miss King teaching
- Thursday: Miss King teaching
PE kit instead of school uniform
- Friday: Miss Stainer teaching
Show and Tell

Mathematics

This half term we will be practising counting to 5 and recognising those numerals. We will be finding different ways that we can create and represent these numbers. We will begin to explore shapes linked to these numbers.



Understanding the World

We will be thinking about how to look after each other and what they need to stay safe. We will be using the text The Colour Monster and our zones of regulation to help us begin to explore, recognise and understand our emotions. We will also explore what makes people special and will find out about harvest.





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Communication and Language;

We will be developing our listening skills and ability to follow instructions through a variety of games. We will develop our ability to talk confidently about ourselves, our families and our interests through games and show and tell. We will also practise sharing our feelings with others and retell stories that are familiar.

Physical Development

We will be developing our fine motor skills through 'Funky Finger' sessions 4 times a week. As well as developing a comfortable pencil grip which enables good control. We will be developing our gross motor skills through working on co-operation games as well as using the outdoor equipment to develop our movement skills and core strength.

Expressive Arts and Design

This half term our pupils will be supported in developing stories around small world objects and be encouraged to think imaginatively when using construction materials. E.g. building a house or a city.

We will explore colour, colour mixing and showing emotions in our drawings. We will also express our own ideas through collaging using a range of autumn materials.

We will be creating pictures using a variety of collage material to recreate the characters from our focused texts. The children will have their music lessons with Miss Stainer on a Friday.

Personal, Social and Emotional

We will be learning all about each other; how old are we? Do we have pets? What are our favourite foods?

We will also be discussing how we are all special, but all have similarities and differences, as well as thinking about how what we say affects others and also celebrating difference.



How you can support your child at home:

To further enhance your child's learning at home you may wish to go on a walk and collect items that you could then create an Autumn picture out of.

Books will begin to come home with your children. These will at first have no words in. We would like you to look through these books and discuss the pictures with your child. You could talk about who the characters are, what are they doing, why are they doing that etc...

Important Dates:

Fri 26th Sept Macmillan coffee morning
29th Sept Harvest food collection week
Fri 3rd Oct Individual photographs
Fri 24th Oct Last day of term

Show and Tell Timetable

12/9/25 – Hartwell
19/9/25 – Mentmore
26/9/25 – Ascott
3/10/25 – Claydon
10/10/25 – Hartwell
17/10/25 – Mentmore
24/10/25 – Ascott