Dear Early Years Parents and Carers,

This half term is all about our school value 'Be Original'. Please follow us on twitter @GCPSReception and Seesaw to continue to see your child's learning.

Best wishes Ms Leslie

What will my child be learning in the Early Years?

There are three prime areas of learning: Communication and Language Development Personal, Social and Emotional Development Physical Development.

There are four core areas of learning: Literacy, Maths, Understanding the World Expressive, Arts and Design In addition, the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' underpin learning and development across all areas and support the child to remain an effective and motivated learner. The Characteristics of Effective Learning are: Playing and exploring-engagement Active learning-motivation Creating and thinking critically-thinking.





Reception

In Personal, Social and Emotional Development we are learning to:

- Show pride in achievements by showing work to others.
 Understand behavioural expectations of the setting.
- Take pride in themselves, work, and achievements
- Explain right from wrong and try to behave accordingly.
- Independently manage their own needs; eating, drinking, accessing snack when hungry and communicate own needs in relation to being thirsty, hungry, tired, using the toilet.
- Talk about healthy and unhealthy foods.
- Consider the listener and takes turns to listen and speak in different contexts.
- Identify kindness and considerate behaviour of others.
- Seek others to share activities and experiences.



...be original

~never stop asking questions... seek out the answers~

The raised hands represent fostering our children to be questioning and evaluative of all they see and hear.

Our children are encouraged to think originally about what they have learnt.

- In Communication and Language we are learning to:
- Listen attentively in a range of situations and know how to listen carefully e.g., understand they need to look at who is talking to them and think about what they are saying.
- Maintain attention, concentrate, and sits quietly during appropriate activities for a short time in the classroom.
- Make predictions about what might happen next or story endings in response to texts read.
- Engage in non-fiction books.
- Link events in a story to their own experiences.
- Introduce a storyline into play.
- Consider the listener and takes turns to listen and speak in different contexts.
- Use talk to pretend objects stand for something else in play.
- Demonstrate use of past tense verbs, such as "ran" or "fell" but may still get confused.
- Offer explanations for why things happen.
- Recount events that happen in their day.

In Physical Development we are learning to

- Understand the difference between toys and tools.
- Position feet/legs to hop effectively.
- Stack, aligning, balancing with magnetic joints
- Join and separate small construction kit components by clicking and twisting.
- Use squashing techniques including rolling pins to achieve desired effects.
- Cut and turn along outlines.
- Travel in different ways with control and coordination.
- Hop to travel between 2 fixed points, travelling along an approximately straight route- e.g. hopscotch
- Imitates adult drawing to create a simple representation.

In **Literacy** we are learning to:

- Use picture clues to help read a simple text.
- Make a simple prediction based on the pictures or text of a straightforward story that is read aloud to them.
- Show understanding of some words and phrases in a story that is read aloud to them.
- Express a preference for a book, song or rhyme, from a limited selection.
- Play is influenced by experience of books (small world, role play).
- Read individual letters by saying the sounds for them.
- Blend sounds into words, so that they can read short words made up of known lettersound correspondences.
- Read a few common exception words (red words).
- Write Use appropriate letters for initial sounds.
- Orally compose a sentence and hold it in memory before attempting to write it.
- Begin to use simple conjunctions.
- Understand that groups of letters make up a word and a group of words make sentences.
- Write the initial sound of a word which may develop to a VC and a CVC words

In Maths we are learning to:

- Compare numbers, one quantity can be more than, the same as or fewer than another quantity.
- Use a range of representations to support this understanding and encourage the children to compare quantities using a variety of objects and representations.
- Develop the understanding that all numbers are made up of smaller numbers, composed of 2 parts or more than 2 parts.
- Encourage children to make direct comparisons holding items to estimate heaviest, use balance scales to check. Prompt language of heavy, heavier than, heaviest, light, lighter than, lightest.
- Build on understanding of full and empty to show half full, nearly full, and nearly empty.
- Use our subitising sills to combine objects and see how many altogether.
- Make direct comparisons. Using mathematical vocab relating to length - longer, shorter; to height - taller, shorter and to breadth - wider, narrower.
- Order and sequence important times in the day and use language such as now, before, later, soon, after, then and next, to describe when events happen.

In **Understanding the World** we are learning to:

- Visually represent our own day on a simple timeline (correspond with number 7 work, days of the week)
- Understand the value of being curious and interested in finding out about people within their own community and in other countries - special places and events or objects - through non-fiction texts, stories, visitors, celebrations.
- Program a BeeBot or instruct a friend to move along a track or small world setup in a specific direction using terms up, down, side.
- Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live e.g., Antarctica.
- Use technology and IT equipment to make observations or find information about different locations and places.
- Recognise, know, and describe features of different places. Look closely at similarities and differences.

In Expression Art and Design we are learning to:

- Develop storylines in their pretend play.
- Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them.
- Do an Artist Study Yves Klein
- Explore artists who use hearts in their art (oil pastels).