



LIONEL WALDEN SCHOOL

'LINK UP'



AUTUMN TERM 2015
PRE-SCHOOL

Pre-School Leader—Mrs. Covill

Our theme this term is 'I am Special'.

Our activities will be based around getting to know the children and the children getting to know each other.

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is divided into seven areas of learning and our activities are planned to develop a range of skills within these areas. The first three areas are called the 'Prime Areas' and if your child is new to the setting, we will be focusing specifically on these areas during their settling-in period.

Personal, Social and Emotional learning relates to self-confidence, feelings and behaviour and making relationships.

Each day, key workers will hold a short 'circle time' with their key children and play games where the children will learn their new friends' names and share news about themselves. They will gain confidence as they talk in front of a small group and learn to take turns to speak or wait for their turn in a game. We will explore games to encourage the children to talk about different feelings and how they might feel if someone was unkind to them or took their toy.

Communication, Language and Literacy development relates to listening and attention, understanding and speaking.

The children will begin to listen and enjoy stories which are read to them in a small group and they will respond to comments and questions about these books, gradually taking turns to speak and listen to their peers. The role play area, which is set up as a home, will provide lots of opportunity for the children to develop their language, including learning new words from their peers and the adults through their play.

Physical Development supports the development of the gross motor skills such as climbing and using balls and also fine motor skills such as learning to use scissors and enjoying painting and drawing. It also relates to health and self-care where we will support the children to use the toilet independently, learn when it is necessary to wash our hands and the sequence for doing this. We will introduce aspects to teach the children about 'healthy me'.

Mathematics, Understanding the World, Literacy and Expressive Arts and Design are the remaining areas of learning.

The children have the opportunity to take home a Pre-School book every day for you to share with them and you can involve them by encouraging your child to anticipate what might happen next, recall familiar parts of the story and join in with words and phrases they are familiar with. Counting is a big part of everyday life at Pre-School and can be continued at home. We will help them to feel confident in their new environment and take the children for walks around the school and enjoy treasure hunts identifying shapes, numbers and colours during our autumn walks. Expressive Arts and Design explores messy play and music. Please do not dress your child in their best clothes as they will enjoy paint, gloop, water, sand, mud, clay, shaving foam, etc. whilst using a variety of tools. They will also have the opportunity to enjoy musical instruments, dance and imaginative play.

Wow Board!

Please contribute to our Wow board from time to time by bringing in something your child has achieved at home. This may be a picture they have drawn, a photograph of an experience they recently enjoyed or something they have recently achieved such as learning to ride their bike. This is a great way to celebrate their success and build links between parents and school.

The Pre-School notice board is just inside the corridor where you will find details of the more specific activities planned for each week. Your awareness of these activities could prompt conversations with your child when they might find it difficult to recall what they have been doing during the session.

Please do not hesitate to come and talk to the staff at the beginning of a session if you have a concern or would like to know more about how your child is settling in and developing at Pre-School.

For those children who have just started Pre-School, we will arrange a mutually convenient time at the end of this half term to discuss how your child has settled in and to share how together we can continue to support their progress.

Claire Covill
Pre-School Leader

