

Our hopes for the children

At the beginning of the year we set out some of the hopes we have for the children in our class; the things that we hope we can help them to achieve (aside from just the educational things). Throughout this first half term in Cowrie Class we will work on these following things and ensure that all the children have the opportunity to refine them. Here are some of the things on our list:

- ◆ Happily separate from their main carer/parent with support
- ◆ Learn the names of the children in their class – make friends and bonds (with adults and children)
- ◆ Be able to sit attentively whilst listening to a story
- ◆ Learn how to use the resources within the continuous provision in the classroom (inside and out)
- ◆ Begin to recognise how they are feeling and be confident to share this with the adults in school
- ◆ Try some new food during snack time
- ◆ Have fun!

Remember to get in touch if you have any queries or concerns. With very best wishes,

Mrs A Warren



Cowrie Class - Nursery

Autumn Term 1

Class Teacher: Mrs A Warren

Nursery Assistants:
Mrs H Treleaven & Mrs R Davis



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are so excited to welcome you and your children to our nursery at St Minver School and especially to Cowrie Class. Our overriding topic for this half term is 'Nice to Meet You' and we are really looking forward to getting to know your children. As part of this theme we will encourage your children to share information about themselves; who is in their family, what pets they have, what they like to do, what they like to eat and things they feel are important to them.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development - Jigsaw

This term our theme is 'Being Me in My World' and we will be learning about what it feels like to belong and that we are all different and similar. We will talk about how we can express our feelings of happiness and/or sadness and we will learn how to work alongside others. Texts such as 'Hands are not for hitting' will be used to develop our understanding of using gentle hands and that kindness towards others is hugely important. We will learn some classroom rules and realise that those rules are in place because we are all entitled to play and learn in a calm and friendly place. We will also learn that we all have a responsibility to look after our classroom and put things away where they belong.

Physical Development

We will provide daily activities that help children to continue to develop their movement, balance, riding, and ball skills. We will practise going up and down steps and use apparatus that help us to use alternate feet. Skipping, hopping, standing on one leg, using large muscle movements, and taking part in some group activities will all feed into encouraging the children to be active. Our 'Healthy Movers' topics this half term are 'Hide and Seek', 'Pick Up' and 'Whatever the Weather'.

According to individual needs we will support the children with becoming independent with their own self-care needs, encourage them to learn about and make healthy choices about food and drink during our daily snack times and promote daily toothbrushing.

Literacy and Communication & Language

Within Literacy we work on a range of skills including; Listening, Vocabulary, Questioning, Sentence and Sentence Building, Story-telling, Non-fiction texts and Phonics. We will share a range of stories and nursery rhymes this half term with a focus on the book 'Kindness Makes us Strong' by Sophie Beer. We will also work on recognising our names and completing lots of gross motor activities that will help us to build up to writing later on in the term. Correct letter formation will be hugely important when we are ready for writing.

Mathematics

The children will be learning to say one number for each item when counting and they will learn to count in order (1,2,3,4,5). We will encourage the children to make comparisons between objects relating to size and talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes using informal and mathematical language: 'sides', 'corners', 'straight', 'flat', 'round'. Number rhymes and stories will be used to help the children with these mathematical concepts and the classroom will enable them to practise their learning in an informal and practical (play-based) way.

Understanding the World

As part of our work on comprehending the world around us we will focus on:

- ◆ Family - The children will be encouraged to talk about their family and the people who are important to them.
- ◆ The Past - We will talk to the children about their lives and place events on a time line; even something that happened at the weekend is in the past!
- ◆ Geography - We will explore our new surroundings - we have wonderful school grounds to find our way around!
- ◆ Senses & Seasons - Whilst exploring outside we will encourage the children to describe what they see, hear and feel. We will collect autumnal objects and describe what we find.
- ◆ We will celebrate Harvest as a whole school (Harvest Breakfast) and use the story 'The Little Red Hen' to help us to learn about how food travels from farm to fork.

Expressive Arts & Design

As part of our work in this area of development we will focus on:

- ◆ Art and Creativity - The children will be encouraged to use a range of resources to explore their ideas and creativity. Paint, pencils, crayons, pastels and a variety of paper and card will all be accessible for the children to use. We will work on recognition of colours and use them to show our feelings (is red an angry colour?).
- ◆ Music - The children (and adults) get so much joy from music - listening to it and creating it! We will join in with our whole school wake and shakes. The children will have the opportunity to use a range of instruments and will move their bodies to different music styles.
- ◆ Dance and Performing Arts - The children are immersed in a language-rich environment where during play they are encouraged to talk, express their feelings and respond to a range of stories and music. We will use a range of familiar and new stories within our play and encourage the children to act them out, adapt them and create their own. We will also learn number and nursery rhymes and poems.