

20.9.21

This week the children will be finishing decorating the letter that their name begins with before moving on to painting their self-portraits. We have already put out some painting activities for the children to explore with paint. We will give the children some more freedom to explore before getting them to work on their self-portraits. You might like to talk at home about what you all look like - colour of eyes, hair etc. to help the children to recognise and talk about this. We will be helping the children mix the colours they need.

As we start to notice signs of autumn and introduce the idea of seasons and years, we will make links with how we have changed and grown since we were babies. We would love children to bring in a photo of themselves as a baby or young toddler to share if possible. Also, this week we will start to link faces to feelings and emotions and how these show in our faces. We will consider how we feel, and what makes us happy.

Included below is some information about expected development for Expressive Arts and Design. You will see how the painting activities mentioned above link to some outcomes for this area of learning, as well as how many other activities link to this area.

Monday 27 September is European Day of Languages. This year the theme is Traditional tales. If any of our children have a simple book, they would like to share in a different language we would love for them to bring it in, even if it is not a Traditional tale. In nursery we will be introducing the idea that there are different languages used around the world and looking at where some countries are. We like to celebrate any languages spoken by children at Nursery. If you speak another language at home and would like to send an email with a few key words for us to learn, such as *hello*, *thank you* and *goodbye* we will share these. Thank you.

Best wishes

Ellie Green & Kelly McIlroy

## Expressive Arts and Design

- Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar.
- Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses etc.
- Make imaginative and complex 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits, such as a city with different buildings and a park.
- Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make.
- Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them.
- Join different materials and explore different textures.
- Create closed shapes with continuous lines and begin to use these shapes to represent objects.
- Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details.
- Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises.
- Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness, fear etc.
- Explore colour and colour-mixing
- Listen with increased attention to sounds.
- Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings.
- Remember and sing entire songs.
- Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match').
- Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down, down and up) of familiar songs.
- Create their own songs, or improvise a song around one they know
- Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas.

