


Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>Your child will be learning to retell the story of Farmer Duck. They be completely immersed in the book as they explore the characters and narrative. Through drama, they will explore the varying characteristics that each character represents and the different values that the book explores. They will then develop their own 'conquering a monster tale' using this story as the starting point. Each day they will practise writing perfect sentences; with adjectives, conjunctions (e.g. and, but), and appropriate punctuation. This half term will have a particular focus on questions and statements and exploring the use of the prefix un. Over the half term the children will be taught how to check their work by reading it back and edit to make corrections as guided by their teacher.</p>
	<p>You could support by asking your child to retell you the story at home. They should use full sentences, actions and expression in their voice. In order to support their understanding of adjectives why not make a vocabulary book full of brilliant words they you could use to describe. When talking to your child please highlight the question in your speech and discuss the common words that start sentences for example: who, what, where, when, why.</p>
Writing	<p>Your child is practising their 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. Pupils are focusing on forming number the correct way around, forming single letters from the correct starting point and joining 2 letters 1 sound, for example 'ai' in rain would be joined.</p>
	 <p>Building on our family learning sessions please ensure you are using the techniques modelled for outstanding handwriting. During homework tasks please encourage your child to write with increased pace and stamina.</p>
Reading	<p>Sounds-Write (Phonics)</p> <p>Your child is practising their skills of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • segmenting (breaking words apart. e.g. plank is p-l-a-n-k); • blending (putting sounds together to make words. e.g. s-p-e-n-t is spent); and • phoneme manipulation e.g. In 'eat' the <ea> makes the /ee/ sound, while in 'break' it makes the /ae/ sound. <p>Whole Class Reading</p> <p>Your child is part of a whole class reading on a daily basis. During these sessions they are practising reading with fluency and expression. Throughout the reading the children talk about the text - recalling facts, inferring beyond the words, and discussing the content more broadly.</p>
	<p>It is vital that you are listening to your child read every night at home. Encourage them to 'say the sounds and read the word'. Exposure to new words that they have to apply their phonic knowledge to will also help to keep them on track ahead of their phonics challenge in June. So far we have covered all representations of /ae/ and /ee/ so please expect your child to be able to read these with increasing independence. You could also read harder texts to your child which they cannot read for themselves but can discuss with you throughout in order to support their comprehension skills.</p>
Mathematics	<p>Your child will be exploring addition and subtraction within numbers to 20. They will focus on number bond knowledge and using it to create number word problems as well as learning to add and subtract confidently in a range of ways. The children will then move on to deepen their understanding of positional language. In this unit, pupils will gain an understanding of positional language, as well as directional language for left and right. This will be taught through a range of practical activities and problem solving tasks in order to ensure fluency of understanding.</p>

	At home it would be great if you could support of learning of left and right. There are many ways to do this but in class we will be asking the children to put their hands in front of them and look which one makes the L. It is also important that you continue to use the methods of number lines, part, part, wholes and ten frames as modelled in reception family learning to support the manipulation of number.
Knowledge	This half term we will be working on our exciting Christmas Nativity. This will link closely to our learning in Religion in which the children will learn and reflect upon the Christian story of Christmas.
	In Science, your children will be exploring the different features of animals and what makes them unique. They will identify the different categories of animals and explore the foods that they eat. They will classify animals based on features , diet and characteristics . They will be using the language of amphibian , reptile , fish , bird , mammal and invertebrate along with herbivore , carnivore and omnivore .
	This half term in History, our focus is Kings, Queens and Leaders. Your child will learn about our current reigning monarch , a time where England had no monarch and the role of the Queen. They will also begin to understand what a parliament is and why the Prime Minister is a leader in our country. We will also be visiting Windsor Castle to further engage the children into this topic.
	We ask that you practise the songs from the Nativity with your children as this year we will be the Choir. Please ensure your child is using a confident voice and can perform with great expression in their voice. To support their learning of science and history further please ensure that you are ofae with the terminology highlighted in green.
Character	This half term we will be exploring 'perseverance' and 'forgiveness'. Your children will be exposed to different literature which will help them to understand the importance of perseverance and forgiveness. We will support this through drama, by engaging them into different role play scenarios.
	You could support your child at home by congratulating them when they show perseverance and forgiveness. For example, when your child is struggling with a task at home, you could promote them to have a persevering attitude; this will encourage a growth mind-set at home and at school.
Art	This half term your children will be exploring different types of line. Using these techniques, they will be creating art work in their sketchbooks and with a range of drawing media. They will focus on how Vincent Van Gogh uses different marks to denote movement.
	You could support this by encouraging your child to draw simple line drawings in which colour is not used. How can we add texture and movement with just lines and a pencil?
Music	As well as in their weekly music lessons, your child sings with their class every day. They are learning to sing rounds, and to clap rhythms and beats. Your child is also learning the songs for the Nativity.
	You could support by singing songs together as a family clapping a rhythm as you sing. To support your child's Christmas performance, you could also practice songs from the Nativity.
Spanish	This half term we will be moving on from general greetings to naming some common animals. The children will be speaking Spanish and learning to recognize simple animal names when written in Spanish.
	To support your child there are lots of great videos on You tube that your child can sing along to at home.
P.E. and Dance	Your child is developing their coordination and control through the development of ball skills in Tennis lessons. They are developing: rolling, patting, bouncing, kicking, steering, throwing and catching skills They are also exploring how their body can move safely as part of a dancing group, and how to move in time with music.
	Please ensure your child has a pair of white trainers, white socks, navy shorts and trousers (to suit all weathers) a Floreat PE t-shirt and a Floreat jumper. It is vital that they are prepared for all weathers as our PE lessons are best held outside wherever possible.