

# How can we be a good friend?

This first topic in Reception will support children to settle happily into their new classroom and routines. It encourages them to explore their new setting, understand expectations, build positive relationships with others (introducing the school value of 'Friendship'), and talk about themselves and their experiences. Adults will be able to develop learning opportunities based on children's emerging interests and needs.

## Personal, Social, Emotional Development

- Understanding that our actions affect others
- Learning ways to solve conflict
- Playing together, taking turns
- Building relationships with others
- Understanding the school rules and expectations
- Saying when we do or do not need help

## Communication and Language

- Listening to others
- Taking turns to speak
- Following instructions
- Using a range of tenses
- Using 'and' and 'because' to link thoughts
- Asking questions
- Giving explanations

## Physical Development

- Avoiding obstacles
- Throwing and catching
- Pencil control: drawing lines / forming some letters
- Holding pencils and tools appropriately
- Using the toilet independently
- Washing hands independently
- Getting changed independently

## Literacy – Reading

- Listening to a story
- Joining in with a story
- Recalling a story
- Joining in with rhyming and rhythmic activities
- Recognising our names, familiar words, and symbols
- Learning how to handle books carefully

## Literacy - Writing

- Saying what we have written
- Listening to the sounds we can hear
- Saying the sounds we can hear
- Forming letters correctly
- Writing our names
- Writing from left-to-right and top-to-bottom

## Literacy – Phonics

- Developing our listening skills (environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body percussion, rhythm & rhyme, oral blending and segmenting)
- Begin learning Speed Sounds: Set 1 (*Read, Write, Inc.*)

## Maths

- Sorting: noticing difference
- Comparing quantities: more/fewer/same
- Quantity to 5
- Introducing 5-frames
- Change within 5: 5-frames

## Understanding the World

- Talk about starting school
- Comment on/question aspects of our familiar world (homes, town, school, class, places of worship, birthdays)
- Explore technological toys (telephones, story headphones, small world toys)

## Expressive Arts and Design

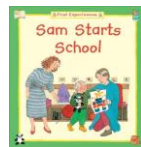
- Join in with dancing and ring games ('getting to know you' games)
- Sing familiar songs
- Explore construction materials
- Explore creative materials

### Monks Mindset Heroes

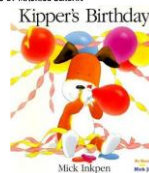
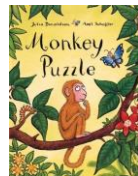
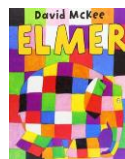
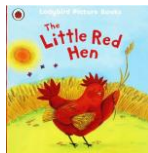


*Curious Cara* – the children will develop a curiosity in each other, building new friendships as well as their new environment, exploring the resources in their classroom.

### Books we will be learning about:



STORY AND PICTURES BY MAURICE SENDAK



### Environment and Locality

Learning about our new classroom environment and the school environment.

Talking about where we live

Learning about harvest

Walking to Church to celebrate the Harvest Festival

### Life Skills / Cultural Capital

Understanding the classroom and school rules

Planning a birthday party for Kipper

Children will have developed confidence to make new relationships and friendships

### Key School Values

Friendship      Respect  
Responsibility      Perseverance  
Generosity

### Parental Engagement

Sending in 'wow' moments from home via email

Book Look and our class website page

Supporting home reading

Being available on the gate every morning

### How can we be a good friend?

By the end of this topic, the children will have settled into their new classroom routines and made some positive relationships with adults and children alike. They will have begun to consider what it means to be a friend and why this might be important, and started to apply this in the classroom. They will be familiar with the resources in the room and will have begun to show different preferences and interests. They will have refined their sound discrimination skills and begun to understand the relationship between sounds in words and letters, realising that these can be used in writing to communicate meaning. Children will also have developed their understanding of, and ability to discuss, quantity through practical explorations in maths activities.