

Key Texts:

Our stories/texts this term will be in line with our theme of carnivals.

- Fiction – Hats for the Carnival by Saviour Pirotta
- Poetry – Carnival Poem by Twinkl
- Fiction – Giraffes Can't Dance

Literacy and Phonics:

Phonics – In phonics this term we will be breaking off into our groups to work on our various phases. We have had a real drive on blending this past term and aim to continue this.

Literacy – We will be reading the stories mentioned above based on our theme. Each story will involve a sensory experience with associated props. Giraffes Can't Dance is especially lovely and we are looking forward to sharing this with the young people! We will then be taking part in comprehension tasks to show understanding of the story. Pupils will also be showing their understanding through mark making, copying/tracing keywords from the story, developing their tripod grip, describing what is happening in a photograph from the story using colourful semantics and retelling the story through answering questions.

Problem Solving and Reasoning:

Our focus for the first three weeks of term will be calculation. Within this we will be thinking about multiplication and grouping. This might be as simple as sorting objects into two groups e.g. splitting connect 4 counters; or it could involve solving physical calculations using discrete groups in bowls. Next we will explore division using the term 'sharing'.

Following calculation we will work on fractions. This will largely involve practical activities such as cutting playdough or matches fractions of objects cut up.

In the last week of term we will think about geometry including position and direction. Pupils will be encouraged to communicate using positional language in play scenarios with support from staff. This could be small world play e.g. dolls house, or involve hide and seek with a teddy around the classroom.

Carnival – Join the Mardi Gras Celebration!

Penguin Class



How you can help at home:

- Share a story every day – Read together or explore a sensory story. Encourage your child to point to pictures, join in with repeated words.
- Talk about what you see and do – Use short, clear sentences to describe daily activities or photos (e.g. "Mum is cooking dinner," "The car is red," "We are walking to school").
- Practise mark making in fun ways – Draw or write using sand, paint, shaving foam, or chalk. Focus on lines, shapes, or the first letters of familiar names or words.
- Count during everyday routines – Count stairs, toys, or pieces of fruit. Use real-life opportunities to practise addition and subtraction (e.g. "You have two apples, let's eat one—how many now?").

Other Curriculum areas:

Theme – This term is choc full of cultural and community events alongside our theme of Carnival. We will use these opportunities e.g. St George's Day parade and Mardi Gras jazz afternoon as a basis for comparing Abingdon to New Orleans and as an opportunity to communicate about our experiences.

Science – In science we will explore sound and light with activities involving musical instruments and even discussing the recent Artemis space rocket trip to the moon.

PSHE – PSHE this term is about healthy living. We will break this down into elements including a 'Joe Wicks' workout for exercise and a taste testing activity as we think about what foods might be healthy and unhealthy.

Careers – This term the focus in careers is on social skills. Pupils will be engaging in team games and activities including parachute games and races as we think about sports day. We will also engage in weekly social clubs with other classes, choosing some of our favourite activities to share with others.

Art – In art this term we will be making representational pictures of objects and people. Further to this we will also be designing and creating a range of art and resources ready for some of our Mardi Gras activities.

P.E. – This term will focus on activities and skills needed for sports day. As such pupils will primarily be working on athletics with jumping, running, throwing and catching.

D&T – Our design and technology will centre around our theme this term. It will include a range of construction tasks and cooking and will allow pupils to reflect upon their own work and creations using aided language boards.

Highlights:

- Sports Day
- Music for Autism
- St George's Day
- Den building for a trip to the moon!