

This half-term, our Little Learners children will be exploring a range of exciting themes and areas from the school curriculum. We've included the key learning intentions for each area, along with some simple ideas for how you can support your child's learning at home. If you'd like to know more about what we're doing in Little Learners or have any questions, please feel free to speak to us at the end of the school day—we'd love to share more with you!

Theme – Winter and Living things around us

Communication & Language	Personal, Social and Emotional	Physical Development	A love for books
			
In School: Introducing and encouraging new words with Winter and what we can see around us. Introducing our new friends to our rules and routines. Continue to gain an understanding of our basic rules and for our older children to gain more independence with these.	In School: Encouraging our children to talk about themselves and their own experiences. Introduce our basic self-care needs to our new children, hanging own coat and bag, washing hands. Encourage our older children to become more independent with self-care needs including toilet training.	In School: Continue to encourage children to explore all areas both indoors and outdoors to practice their fine and gross motor skills and exploring different ways that we can move. 5 minutes daily Squiggle time.	In School: Encourage children to look at pictures in books and talk about what they can see. To begin to use new language to help them express their feelings about what they can see in books and to use this new language to talk about the pictures. Begin to listen to a short story.
At Home: Introduce your child to new words when out and about with what we can see. Model longer phrases about the world around us and Winter. https://wakefield.mumbler.co.uk/50-things-to-do-before-youre-5/	At Home: Continue to have a routine within the home to encourage your child to get used to and learn a daily routine. Encourage your child to be more independent at home, hanging own coat, putting own shoes away, tidying the toys away. When your child is ready and showing interest, here is a useful tip to aid with potty training: https://eric.org.uk/potty-training/	At Home: Please provide suitable clothing for your child to come to Little Learners as we do go out in all weathers. Play games with your child such as kicking, throwing and catching. Visiting the park is great way for your child to practise their physical skills, get plenty of fresh air and build self-esteem and motivation.	At Home: Sit with your child daily and talk about the pictures you can see in their books. Model new words with what you can see in pictures. Model how to hold and turn the pages. Read your child's library book with them that they bring home weekly from Little Learners. Check out this site for some great ideas: https://www.nhs.uk/best-start-in-life/toddler/learning-to-talk/learning-conversations-and-telling-stories-3-to-5-years/
Mark Making	Maths	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts & Design
			
In School: Continue to give children opportunities to use different media to make marks. Encourage children to give meanings to marks as we create our Winter masterpieces.	In School: Continue to practice our counting skills during play. Introduce the language of size using resources in our water and sand areas. Introduce simple preposition language during play. Joining in with number rhymes.	In School: Exploring the natural changes with the environment with the season and use new words during play. Talk about themselves, our likes and dislikes and begin to show understanding that they are unique. Use photos of themselves and animals to talk about their own lives and experiences.	In School: Begin to develop imagination during play in the home corner and through movement and music. Join in with simple action songs and rhymes. Explore various creative and messy play to introduce new words, textures and feelings.
At Home: Model and encourage your child to make simple marks using chalks, pens, crayons. Talk to your child about what you are drawing and what they have drawn.	At Home: Sing number rhymes together. Count anything and everything when out and about. Talk about basic sizes (big truck, small car) when out together, or sizes of the tower they have made with the blocks.	At Home: Look at family photos together and talk about past experiences. Talk about the changing environment when out walking and introduce new words about the changing weather.	At Home: Sing songs together and dance, creating their own movements to music they enjoy. Let your child use props such as a handbag, hats, to act out their play and begin to use their imagination.