

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others, to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings, to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities. The new children will have opportunities to get to know each other and the adults in the Squirrels. Activities will include the children to work cooperatively together e.g passing a ball back and forth, passing the teddy around the group during Circle time to reinforce names.

## Communication and Language

Children will be given a range of opportunities to develop their language skills. This will include listening to stories and joining in with favourite nursery rhymes. The children will gradually begin to join in with the repeated phrases as they become familiar with the stories.

Activities will include and provide resources to encourage the children to engage in symbolic play, e.g small world figures. This will encourage the children to learn new words and engage in simple conversations asking and answering topic related questions.

## Physical Development

Opportunities will be provided for the children to be active and develop their gross and fine motor skills. The children will be encouraged to explore their surroundings and use different ways of travelling running, jumping, skipping, climbing. The children will be encouraged to 'mark make' in different ways using different materials, The children will begin to develop Health and self-care skills e.g. washing hands, showing awareness of bladder control. We will encourage the children to try and put on their own coats and to take care of their own belongings.

*Squirrels  
Spring 2024  
Settling in to Squirrels  
Winter  
Winter/ Penguins  
Space  
Chinese New Year  
Traditional Tales*

## Expressive Arts and Design

Children will be able to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials and experiment making marks through sensory play. They will be provided with textures of writing implements, paint, shaving foam, jelly, flour and natural materials. They can express feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role play. The Role Play area will be set up as a Home corner for the children to play together and engage new friendships with their peers. The children will begin to create craft activities for a purpose e.g. Self portraits, using different materials to create different effects, The children will be encouraged to engage in a variety of creative activities linked to the current topics. They can express feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role play.

## Understanding the World

This area involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and to find out about people, places, technology and the natural environment. Activities will link to exploration commenting and asking questions about their familiar world and beyond. 'How?' or 'What?' They will be learning about, making friendships and managing behaviour, growth and decay in their natural environment, living things plants, animals, creatures, cultures and traditions, using imagination when acting out their own personal experiences. The children will have opportunities to use the interactive smartboard and iPads with age appropriate software

