

Once upon a time

Reception Classes China Red and China Blue

January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

This term our topic is '**Once Upon a Time**'. The children really enjoy this topic as they have lots of opportunities to retell stories in a variety of ways through puppets, role play and story maps. On the other side of this sheet you will find a topic web, which shows the main areas of learning the children will experience during the term. We hope that you will find it interesting and a useful starting point for supporting your child in their learning.



To enrich our topic this term, we are happy to have a theatre company visiting to retell favourite fairy stories. In order to make the theatre company visit possible we have to ask for a voluntary contribution to help towards the cost, and more information about this will be sent in a separate letter. The visit will be Covid dependant and following latest safety guidance.

Please continue to read and share books as it benefits your child to read regularly. We would appreciate a comment or initials to show that your child has read at home. Keep practising words on the book marks; it is very encouraging to hear the children read so many words during our shared reading sessions.

Children will need their PE kits in school all week as we will be enjoying dance and Bee-fit sessions this term. It is very important for health and safety reasons that children are dressed correctly. Please remember to check that your child's name is still visible on their PE kit so that we can try to reunite any lost items with their owner! Please could we also ask that all school uniform is named including coats, shoes, hats and gloves.

Please can the children continue to bring their book bags and water bottles daily.

If you need to contact us we are available on email on squigley.938@lgflmail.org or dtaylor94.938@lgflmail.org.

We are looking forward to an exciting term.

Mrs Quigley, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Poulter, Mrs Colbourne and Mrs Wells.

Understanding of the World

- Maps related to fairy stories
- Planting seeds and watching their growth.
- Looking at the past through Fairy Story illustrations.
- Stories from around the world Handa's Surprise and Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain.
- Learning about different cultures, celebrating Chinese New Year, Easter
- Explore how things work e.g. wind-up toys, cogs, pulleys.

Expressive Arts and Design

- 3D papier-mâché three bears bowls.
- Observational drawings of teddy bears.
- Extend colour mixing techniques.
- Chinese New Year dragon dances.
- Learning new songs and joining in with action rhymes.
- Junk modelling – giant's castle, bear cottage.

Physical Development

- Dance – moving like characters from Fairy Stories.
- Bee-fit activities, taking part in small team games using a range of small equipment.
- Making bird feeders.
- Digging and preparing the garden for planting seeds.
- Constructing large structures e.g. castles.
- Funky fingers and handskills games to develop accuracy and care when drawing.

Communication Language and Literacy

- Role play, puppet theatres, re-telling fairy stories.
- Developing awareness of story vocabulary, settings and characters
- Writing for different purposes – story maps, speech bubbles, captions and character descriptions.
- Daily phonics and word building activities.
- Taking part in National bird watch week, reading and recording information.
- Sequencing main events from stories.

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Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Circle time - Resolving conflicts, sharing jobs.
- Working as part of a group by sharing and listening to each other's ideas.
- Developing emotional literacy.
- Continue to develop independence and resilience.
- Increasingly manage personal needs e.g. making healthy food choices and dressing self.

Mathematical Development

- Counting fairy tale objects and noticing patterns, such as odd and even numbers.
- Spending money in role play shops to buy ingredients for cooking activities.
- Measuring quantities to make porridge.
- Collecting data for national bird watch week.
- Ordering numbered leaves on a bean stalk.
- 3D shape hunt.