

# JOURNEYS



## The Big Idea

In this topic our learning will be set within the theme of journeys. We will start by reading the book "Whatever Next" by Jill Murphy, and considering the journey that Bear made. Although Bear's adventure was an imaginary one, this will lead us into finding out what Bear would have seen and felt had he actually arrived on the moon. We will then go on to find out about space travel.

The second part of our topic will be based around the story of "Handa's Surprise", and we will start by considering Handa's journey in Africa, as she sets out to find water. We will compare and contrast her journey to those we make and think about the differences between Handa's life and our own, focusing on animal and plant life, habitat and climate.

## Outdoor Learning

We will make bird feeders, and observe the different types of birds who fly down to use them in our outside area. We will dig and prepare our raised bed and begin to germinate seeds inside to plant out when the weather allows. We will continue to observe seasonal changes.



## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will focus on encouraging the children to play co-operatively and to take account of one another's ideas about how to organise an activity. We will use stories and role play to explore how someone else's point of view can be different from theirs. We will help the children to resolve minor disagreements through listening to each other to come up with a fair solution.

## Understanding of the World

The children in Barn Owls will take part in topic related activities. These will include

- Making smoothies and milk shakes using different types of fruit
- Learning about the habitats of different countries around the world, using computers and books.
- Making fruit salad
- Making and drawing maps and programming bee bots to follow the route

The children will also have lots of opportunities to initiate their own learning, selecting from the class resources and will be encouraged to 'plan, do and review' their activities.

## Expressive arts and design

All of our activities will encourage the children to be imaginative and to explore and use different media and materials. Activities planned include:

- Fruit and vegetable printing
- Making pictures in the style of Arcimboldo
- Making a large class rocket

## RE

We will be exploring the themes of "meals with Jesus" and "food, glorious food". We will introduce the key events in the Easter narrative and explore the final meal which Jesus shared with his disciples. We will also consider the new life we can see in the Springtime all around us.

## Music

In music we will continue to learn lots of fun songs. Some of these songs will help us to learn our phonics and numbers. We will play simple percussion instruments and learn their different names and how they make a sound.

## Trips and Events

- A talk and visit from the local optician to learn about how our eyes work.
- Easter service at All Saints' Church.

## English

- In **phonics** the Barn Owls will revise the first blends of sh, ch, ng and th. We will then move on to learn the blends of ai, ee, igh and oa.
- We will be using our phonic knowledge to read and write a variety of simple words and short sentences. We will be sounding out and writing lots of words with the blends we are learning, such as "**ship, shell, church, chess, ring, king, this and thing**".
- We will practise and write our phase 2 and then phase 3 tricky words.
- We will read a rich variety of stories and poems, many relating to our topic.
- We will write a list of things we would take to the moon with us if we could visit.
- We will act out and sequence the story of "Whatever Next!" in small groups.
- We will make a story map of Handa's Surprise, painting the animals and writing key pieces of the story text.
- We will discuss and taste the fruits in Handa's Surprise and write which fruits we like the best.
- We will read the traditional story of Jack and the Beanstalk and learn to re-tell it using "Talk for Writing" actions.
- We will use the golden beans as a story writing stimulus. What could happen if we planted the golden beans?

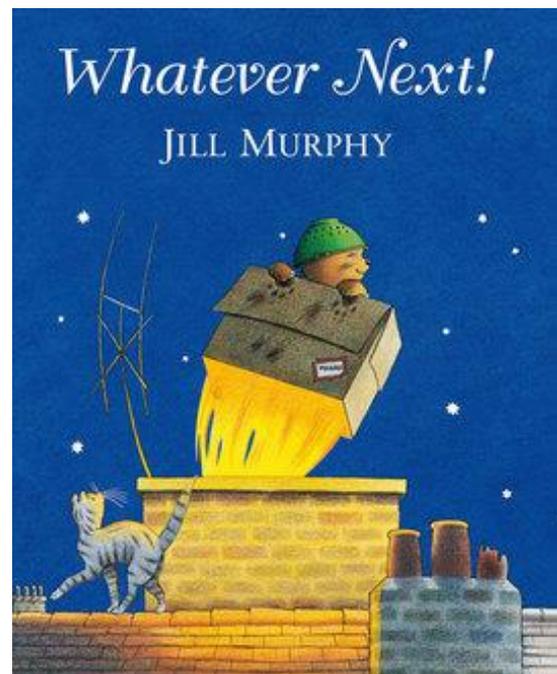
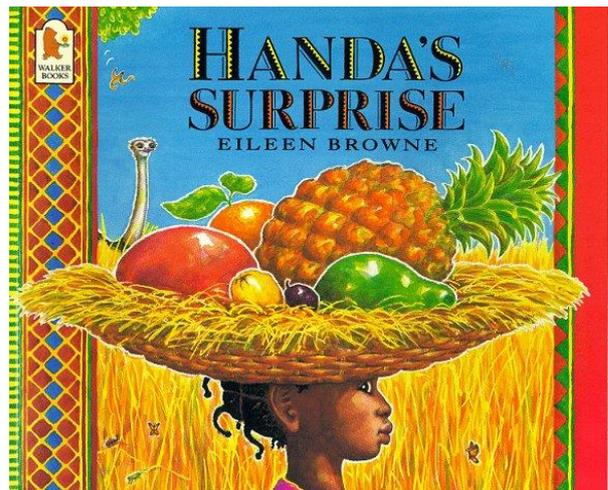
## Physical Development

We will be helping the children develop good control and co-ordination in large and small movements. The children will be learning to:

- Move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space.
- Show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements.
- Hop confidently and skip in time to music

In **health and self-care** we will be exploring the importance of a healthy diet. We will look at choices for packed lunches and teach the children how to make healthy choices in relation to eating a healthy diet.

We will also talk about the importance of physical exercise and discuss ways to keep healthy and safe.



### Maths

- In **number**, the Barn Owls will continue to develop reliable counting from one to twenty and place the numbers in order.
- They will work out one more than or one less than the number counted. Using quantities and objects, they will add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer.
- They will begin to identify their own mathematical problems based on their own interests and fascinations.
- In **shape, space and measure** the children will be exploring characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and using mathematical language to describe them.
- We will make a **pictogram** of our favourite fruit.
- We will use a selection of containers and water to explore **capacity**, and use language to compare quantities and solve problems.

### Class Routines:

#### Reading

Please continue with daily reading and filling in the reading diaries. Thank you.

#### P.E. LESSONS:

- The children need to have their P.E. kit in school each day and we will send it home every few weeks on a Friday so that it can be washed and returned on Monday.
- Long hair should be tied back for school, but it must be tied back for P.E. lessons so a spare hair band is a good idea.

#### COMMUNICATION:

- I will always be available at the end of school if you would like to speak to me, and if you need to see me in the morning, ask to pop along to the classroom.
- We would love to hear of our Barn Owls' achievements at home, so please do fill in WOW slips which we can add into their learning journeys.
- If you need more slips, please ask and we will provide. Thank you!