



King's Academy Binfield

Welcome to Ruby Class!



September 2021

We have had a wonderful start to the year in Ruby Class and I am so proud of how well the children are settling. They have all been very busy making friends, learning new routines and exploring their classroom. Our first topic is 'All about me!' and it has been great to learn all about the children so far. We look forward to getting to know each other even further as the topic progresses. Our Learning Support Assistant in our classroom is the lovely Mrs Woad and she has also been blown away by how fantastic the children have been so far!

The Foundation Stage Curriculum is split into seven areas and some of the learning opportunities for this term are detailed below. The first three areas (PSED, Communication and Language and Physical Development) are called the Prime areas. These areas are particularly important for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving.

Personal, Social, Emotional Development

The first term of school is all about the children getting to know each other and feeling happy and safe in their new environment. We will be encouraging the children to be as independent as possible and welcome your support with this at home too. The children are learning to move around the classroom confidently whilst following the class rules. They will be exploring their feelings and how to express these and learning the importance of treating others, and their environment with respect. We will be encouraging children to show determination and resilience when facing challenges and, most importantly, to approach their learning with a big smile on their face!



Communication and Language

There is lots of talk in Ruby Class and all children will be encouraged to practise their speaking and listening skills through a variety of activities like whole class carpet sessions, group work, circle time and play. They will be learning to listen and follow instructions and developing their ability to articulate their ideas and thoughts in well formed sentences. The children will be developing new relationships, learning how to interact with each other and how to share resources in the classroom environment.



Physical Development

This term we will be focusing on both gross and fine motor skills. We will be using trikes and scooters out in our garden and learning to travel over and under objects. We will be using a range of resources to help develop fine motor skills like playdough, threading, puzzles and arts and crafts. We will also be developing independence with tasks such as taking off coats, toileting, undressing/dressing and using cutlery correctly at lunchtime. Please continue to encourage your child to be as independent as possible with these tasks at home. The children will have weekly PE lessons every Wednesday where we will be exploring different ways of moving our bodies and practising our ball skills.



Literacy

During this term, we will be exploring lots of stories, songs and rhymes, which the children can share, join in with and talk about. We strive to foster a love of reading in the children and they will be read wonderful stories every day that transport them to all sorts of exciting places! As an introduction to phonics we will be tuning in to different sounds in the environment and going for walks around the school to see what we can hear. The second half of the Autumn Term will be focused around Traditional Tales such as The Three Little Pigs and we will encourage the children to retell familiar stories.



Mathematics

In maths, we will begin exploring numbers to 5. The children will be practising to recite numbers in order, count objects and recognise numbers. We will be using number names and language during play and singing lots of number rhymes to help us learn too. The children will be exploring shapes and colours in the environment and making arrangements with objects. Maths will be practical and fun!



Understanding the World

Ruby class will have lots of fun exploring the school and its surroundings. We will look at and discuss seasonal changes and talk about ourselves and our families. We will encourage and nurture curiosity in your children. We will spend lots of time outside, exploring nature and all its wonders! During this term, we will look at different celebrations and events including birthdays, Harvest, Diwali, Bonfire night, Remembrance Day and Christmas. If your family celebrates a special event, please let us know and we can talk about it in class. If you would like to come into school and share anything about your culture, religion or job with Ruby Class to help better their understanding of the world we would be very grateful and would welcome you with open arms.



Spanish

Spanish will be taught once a week over the term by Señora (Mrs!) Laroche. The Children will carry out a variety of interactive and fun activities whilst learning Spanish. They will learn greetings, numbers, colours and shapes. Olé!



Expressive Arts and Design

The children will have access to a range of creative resources which they can use throughout the day. Role-play will take place in the classroom and usually continues outside, being adapted by the children, according to their interests! Our role-play area will be transformed into a variety of different scenes over the year. We will learn and share a variety of songs, there will be lots of singing and dancing in Ruby Class!



Star of the Week

Every Friday, I will be choosing one child to be the star of the week. This is based on our school's DARE values:

- **Determination**
- **Aspiration**
- **Respect**
- **Enthusiasm**

The children will also be able to collect dojo points for demonstrating these values during the school day – these count individually as well as for their house.



Ted the Bear

Our class bear, Ted, and his diary, will be sent home with the 'Star of The Week' every Friday. Each child will have the opportunity for Ted to stay with them for 5 whole nights! Please return Ted to school on Wednesday. In his diary, your child is free to draw, add photos and create a memorable diary entry which they can share with the class. There is no pressure to do anything out of the ordinary; Ted loves having bedtime stories, having picnics and playing at home too. We are looking forward to seeing Ted's adventures!



Learning Journeys

Some of your child's learning will be recorded on Tapestry, where you will be able to see what they have been busy doing at school, an activation email will be sent to you shortly for this- look out for it and follow the instructions. You can also add photographs and comments on to Tapestry- we would love to see what the children have been learning at home too!



I will also share a weekly 'What we are learning' page which will inform you of the themes and learning taking place in Ruby Class. This will enable you to develop and support your child's learning at home as well as prompt conversations about what they are doing at school.

I am very much looking forward to sharing a fun and enjoyable learning journey with the children this year and also working in a supportive partnership with you.

Please do not hesitate to come and ask me any questions, my door is always open.

Kind regards,

Miss Greaney

Nursery Teacher