



ARC - Koala class

Summer Term 2021

Welcome to the Summer term! Our enquiry question to drive this term's theme is "How does your garden grow?"

The children will be planting seeds, bulbs and beans, as well as looking after tomato plants and other vegetables. With the enquiry approach the children are encouraged to ask questions which we then support them to explore and investigate.

The children will also be learning about how they grow, and discussing how to be healthy so they grow up big and strong.

Useful Reminders

Sun cream: We are hoping for some more sunny weather. In school we will put sun cream on the children during sunny days. If you would prefer to send your own cream in due to sensitive skin or allergies please could you label the bottle with your child's name.

Clothes for the weather: The children play and learn outside daily, whatever the weather. Please ensure your child has a warm coat on cold days, and a sun hat on sunnier days. The children need appropriate footwear every day which allows them to run freely and safely without trips or falls, and protects their feet while playing.

Please remember to put your child's name in their school clothes as this helps us to make sure they have all their belongings at the end of the day.

Spare clothing: We have very limited spare clothing in school. Please can you send spare clothes for your child every day, or to stay in school if you prefer.

As well as occasional toilet accidents the children **love** to play outside with water, and are encouraged to explore and investigate. Water fun often results in wet clothes, so your child may regularly need a full change, including socks! We are also grateful for any donations of clothes your child has grown out of and no longer needs.

Reading: The children will be bringing a library pack home to enjoy sharing with you. Please record in the yellow book how your child and you enjoyed the stories and how your child interacted with the books, looking at the pictures, or telling parts of the story for example. Once you have shared the book and any activities, please return the pack to school and your child will bring a new pack home.

PE Kit: The children will have PE kit supplied by school which will be kept in the classroom.

School resources: From time to time the children bring home games and resources to help them to learn at home. They also sometimes bring home school toys that they have in their pockets. I would be very grateful if you would kindly return any school resources after you have used them at home.

Here are some of the things we are planning to do this term.

Reading	We love reading in Koalas! Every day the children choose a book to share with an adult. We read and talk about picture books and the children enjoy sharing and joining in with familiar stories. Many of our topics and themes start from stories, to foster an early love of stories and books, and to develop pre reading skills looking at pictures, retelling favourite stories and acting out elements from stories in their play. When they become ready they will begin to learn to recognise letters and their sounds and follow the Read, Write Inc phonics programme in school.
Writing	The children do a range of activities daily to strengthen arms, hands and finger muscles to develop fine motor control needed to write. There are many opportunities for the children to make marks, draw, colour and develop pre writing skills. During play and planned activities we encourage the children to "write" for a purpose. The early stage is making marks to write their name, make shopping lists and labels for their pictures. As the children develop they begin to follow the Read, Write Inc program in school.
Maths	The ARC environment is set up to provide lots of opportunities to develop maths skills through play. We also have planned activities to build skills such as counting, reading and writing numerals, making and combining sets of objects, finding one more than a number, recognising shapes, measuring and comparing weights, length and capacity.
Speaking, listening and Communicating	Within Koalas the children are developing their communication skills through play, planned activities and group times. They have adult play partners to model positive communication with their peers. The children are beginning to learn how to listen to, and follow, instructions. We use visual symbols to help the children identify how they are feeling and to communicate this to others.
Turn Taking and Social Interaction	Within Koalas, we provide daily opportunities for the children to share, take turns and respond to the needs of others. These are important life skills and we model turn taking and cooperation. The children enjoy opportunities to work together and this can provide some really useful opportunities to learn about how to resolve conflict.
Physical Development/ P.E.	The children all really enjoy active play and this helps build their balance and coordination. The children play outside frequently, and have opportunities to use bikes and scooters. Once the children settle they will visit the sports hall once per week for PE lesson. Physical development also includes the children learning about their bodies and developing independence in following toilet, hygiene and eating routines, and to recognise how their bodies feel.
Geography/ Science/ICT/ Understanding the World.	This term we will be focusing on "How does your garden grow? The children will investigate growing plants and vegetables, as well as investigating minibeasts and creatures they find in the garden. They will also learn about how to keep healthy so they grow themselves. The children will use ICT to record their learning.
Expressive Arts and Design/ Art and design technology	The children will be encouraged to be creative daily, with paint, collage, junk modelling, playdough, musical instruments and role play. Adults will play and work with children to develop their imagination through role play and small world area play, and the children will be encouraged to explore paints and art materials to make pictures and their own creations. We will sing songs daily in class, and once per week the children will join in an adult led music group exploring loud, quiet, fast and slow sounds and playing along to a beat.

If you have any questions or would like more information on the curriculum please do not hesitate to ask. ARC staff are available to speak to before and after school, or you can send a direct message on the message section of Class Dojo.

We love to hear about things the children do out of school, however small and to celebrate any achievements and new skills you have noticed at home. Please send any comments or photographs via Dojo messaging or via email to liz.humby@bridgewater.newcastle.sch.uk or jennifer.cox@bridgewater.newcastle.sch.uk.

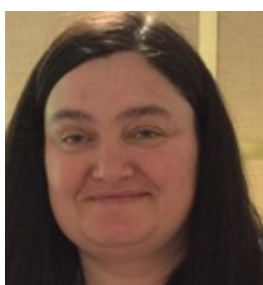
ARC Staff



Mrs Jenny Cox
Class Teacher
Thursday and
Friday



Liz Humby
Class Teacher
Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday



Donna Anderson
SEND Teaching
Assistant Full Time



Amina Hussain
SEND Teaching
Assistant
Full Time



Rose Gethings
Lunchtime Supervisor
Supports in
classroom regularly.