



The Winchester School, Jebel Ali



Family Learning Newsletter (Foundation Stage 1) – December 2024

Area of learning	Focus	Home activities/How can you help your child at home	Useful website
Prime Area Communication and Language	<u>Speaking</u> Uses talk in pretending that objects stand for something else in play, e.g, This box is my castle.	Encourage your child to act out familiar stories in their play by providing them small-world toys or puppets. Expand on what the child says by repeating it and adding a few more words, helping your child to use sentences and build up vocabulary. Pretend play is one of the best ways to build language in young children. Show the interest in the words your child uses to communicate and describe their experiences.	<u>Communication and Language Development activities</u>
Physical Development	<u>Moving and Handling</u> Creates lines and circles pivoting from the shoulder and elbow.	Encourage your child to create lines and circles when they are busy playing in sand at the beach/ play area or swimming in the pool or using ribbon wand to make big movements. Sing action songs while doing these gross motor movements to make it interesting for the child. You can make simple ribbon wands at home along with your child.	<u>Make your own ribbon wand</u>
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<u>Understanding Emotions</u> Is more able to recognise the impact of their choices and behaviours/actions on others and knows that some actions and words can hurt others' feelings.	Talk and share with your child about different emotions/feelings that can be expressed. Encourage and help your child to recognise when their actions hurt others. Do not expect children to say sorry before they have a real understanding of what this means. Instead help them to suggest solutions to a conflict when they are emotionally ready. Engage in role play or imaginary play scenarios with your child to help them understand the result of their behaviours, actions and words.	

<p>Specific Area Literacy</p>	<p><u>Reading</u> Looks at and enjoys print and digital books independently.</p> <p>Books Zayoodi’s Adventures by Sarah Sillis My House by Byron Barton House for sale - an ORT book How to catch a star by Oliver Jeffers Nana and granddad’s Dubai adventure by Shona Grundy</p> <p><u>Writing</u> Imitates adults’ writing by making continuous lines of shapes and symbols (early writing) from left to right.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to handle books/iPad with care – how to hold the book upright, look at the cover page, turn one page at a time and how to close the book and keep it back on the bookshelf. Model them on how to switch on the iPad and how to increase or decrease the volume of the iPad. Read books with them every day to help them enjoy the reading and books.</p> <p>Talk about their drawings or any marks they have made. Always appreciate and praise for what work or drawing they have done, even if it doesn’t represent what they say. Include opportunities to talk and write with a purpose like making a list to do shopping or a greeting card for a family member or friend. Encourage them to tell what they have written. Think out loud or talk through what you are doing when writing or typing on screen.</p>	<p><u>Reading and Writing in Early Years</u></p>
<p>Mathematics</p>	<p>Explores and adds to simple linear patterns of two or three repeating items, e.g. stick, leaf (AB) or stick, leaf, stone.</p>	<p>Encourage children to sing rhymes and listen to stories as they have an important place in their understanding of patterns. By practising recall such as ‘head, shoulders, knees and toes’ and repeated refrains within stories children learn about patterns in speech and language. Talk to them about visual pattern by showing them patterned material like gingham, polka dots, stripes. Show them how to arrange small objects in patterns. Use words like ‘repeated’ and ‘the same’ over and over. Talk about and identify the patterns around them. For example: stripes on clothes, designs on rugs and wallpaper. Provide a range of natural and everyday objects and materials, as well as blocks and shapes, for children to play with freely and to make their own patterns with.</p>	<p><u>Pattern</u></p>

<p>Understanding the World</p>	<p><u>Technology</u> Shows an interest in technological toys with knobs or pulleys, real objects such as cameras and touch screen devices such as mobile phones and tablets.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to develop skills as they become familiar with simple equipment at home like twisting or turning a knob, winding toys, playing the TV with the help of the remote, operating a tablet, iPad, camera or mobile phone. Provide them toys which have buttons to press, knobs to rotate, and strings to pull and encourage them to operate them.</p>	<p><u>Technology in early years</u></p>
<p>Expressive Arts and Design</p>	<p><u>Creating with materials</u> Sings familiar songs, e.g pop songs, songs from TV programmes, rhymes, songs from home.</p> <p><u>Being Imaginative and Expressive</u> Uses available resources to create props to support role-play</p>	<p>Share nursery rhymes and encourage your child to join in. e.g. Incy Wincy Spider, Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, Baa Baa Black Sheep, London Bridge, Mary Had A Little Lamb, etc. Talk about their favourite songs, songs in the language you use at home, songs from their favourite cartoon programme, new rhymes your child has picked up from school.</p> <p>Encourage them to make different props like models of famous buildings of UAE like Burj Khalifa, Burj Al Arab and Grand Mosque and symbols of UAE like National Flag, Emblem, national tree, animal and bird using sustainable materials. They can also make props for their favourite rhyme. Talk and share ideas with your child and what resources will be required to make the props. Encourage your child to use/play with different materials to enhance their creativity.</p>	
	<p><u>Upcoming events:</u> End of Term 1 PTM Winter Break Term 2 begins</p>	<p>Monday, 9th December 2024 16th December 2024 to 3rd January 2025 Monday, 6th January 2025</p>	