



YEAR R NEWSLETTER 18.5.2026

We had a wonderful trip to Kent Life last week. I hope you have had the chance to look at the photos on tapestry. The children were so well behaved and really enjoyed themselves.

This week, in Drawing Club, we will explore another story about growing 'The Acorn'.

Maths: Manipulate, Compose and Decompose

This week we will be learning about the names and properties of some 2D and 3D shapes. We will be using shapes to make pictures and identifying shapes within pictures. You can support your child by noticing shapes around you. When looking at the outside of a house what shapes can you see?

Phonics

This week we are continuing to learn the following sounds.

This week we are learning:



School Uniform

After the half term holiday, the children should be in summer uniform only. Please see details on the school website <https://www.st-anselms.kent.sch.uk/uniform>
Jumpers/cardigans should be at school everyday and a jacket/raincoat (even if this is kept in their bag).

Early Learning Goals

This week's focus is :
Expressive Arts and Design

Expressive Arts and Design

Creating with Materials

- Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.
- Share their creations, explaining the process they have used.
- Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories.

Being Imaginative and Expressive

- Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher.
- Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs.
- Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and (when appropriate) try to move in time with music.

Expressive Arts and Design is a **specific** area of learning. The Specific Areas of Learning cannot be developed alone and rely on the skills gained in the **Prime Areas of Learning** already shared in previous weeks. Achieving the Understanding the world learning goal can be dependent on how well a child can communicate to show their understanding.

Expressive Arts and Design

This area is divided into 2 sections. Creating With Materials and Being Imaginative and Expressive

Top tips to support your child's **Expressive Arts and Design** at home:

- Provide your child with a selection of paper, glue, paint and other creative resources like ribbon and glitter for your child to use in their art as well as clay or playdough for modelling - cardboard, sticky tape, string and so on for making models - basic musical instruments, even pans, pot lids and home-made ones like plastic drinks bottle filled with some rice - basic role-play props - a pair of shoes, a bag and a few lengths of fabric will be enough to set the scene while sheets and large boxes are ideal for making dens.
- Provide opportunities for your child to be creative outdoors, as well as in. Outdoors they can create things on a much larger scale and have a greater sense of freedom.
- Try not to worry too much about mess - it's part of the creative process and you can set clear boundaries about where your child can play with paint or clay
- Give your child plenty of time to explore and avoid rushing them to finish what they are doing - creative ideas take time to develop and flow. It is more about the process than a finished product
- Join in your child's play but remember it is their creative ideas that you want to develop and not yours. Don't do everything for them, encourage them to try first. Be ready to join in their role play too, as children often enjoy having an adult playmate that they can direct.
- Make music part of your child's life. Hearing and making music and singing songs has an invaluable effect on children's language and physical skills.
- Value your children's efforts. Take time to look at what they have made and talk about it, then put it on display.

Websites you may find useful

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2fyrmn>

If you have any concerns about your child's Expressive Arts and Design or would like more ideas about how to best support your child, then please get in touch with me via the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

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