

LEARNING LETTER - PANDA CLASS Autumn 26-27

MY COMMUNICATION Communication and Literacy	MY BODY Physical Skills	MY INDEPENDENCE Skills for Life
This Autumn Term, our topics are Making Magic and Fairy Tales. In Autumn 1, pupils will explore The Magic Porridge Pot, Potion Commotion, Ellie's Magic Wellies and A Recipe for a Magic Potion. In Autumn 2, we will enjoy familiar and alternative fairy tales, including Goldilocks and Just the One Bear, Peter and the Wolf, Little Red Riding Hood and The Princess and the Pea. Pupils will develop their communication and storytelling skills through sensory stories, props, role play, communication scripts and symbol-supported activities. Pre-phonics will focus on environmental and instrumental sounds in Autumn 1, followed by body percussion in Autumn 2. Pupils will also practise oral segmenting and blending, finding items from labels where appropriate, and building vocabulary using questions such as "who?", "where?" and "doing what?". Ways you can help your child at home: • Share familiar fairy tales and magic-themed stories together, looking at the pictures and naming the characters. • Use simple questions such as "Who is it?", "Where are they?" and "What are they doing?". • Encourage your child to join in with repeated words, actions, sounds or familiar parts of a story. • Explore environmental sounds, instruments and body percussion by listening, copying and taking turns.	This Autumn Term, pupils will develop body awareness, coordination, fine motor control and confidence through PE, outdoor learning, sensory circuits and swimming. In Autumn 1, PE will focus on throwing at a target. Outdoor learning will include exploring the school environment, finding and naming ingredients for magic potions, mixing natural materials and making nature magic wands. Fine motor activities will involve mixing, kneading, rolling and threading. In Autumn 2, PE will focus on batting skills, alongside sensory circuits and swimming. Pupils will act out fairy tales outdoors and take part in story-themed mark-making activities to strengthen hand control and early writing skills. Ways you can help your child at home: • Practise throwing soft balls or beanbags towards a simple target. • Explore natural materials outdoors and collect safe items for pretend potions or magic wands. • Provide fine motor activities such as rolling dough, threading, stirring and simple mark making. • Play simple batting games using a balloon, soft ball or rolled-up socks.	This term, pupils will continue to work on individually planned independence targets while taking part in practical, sensory and community-based experiences. In Autumn 1, pupils will explore ingredients for potions, including herbs, spices and natural resources. Identiplay will use tea sets, pots and spoons for mixing potions and casting spells. Pupils will take part in a cinema experience, enjoy a magic potion massage story or TAC PAC session, and make energy balls by mixing and rolling ingredients. In Autumn 2, pupils will explore tastes, smells and textures linked to fairy tales, including porridge, muffins, peas and soft "wolf fur". Identiplay will focus on small-world play and re-enacting familiar stories. Pupils will enjoy a Goldilocks massage story, take part in a storyteller experience and make Red Riding Hood's muffins. Ways you can help your child at home: • Let your child help with simple cooking tasks such as mixing, rolling, pouring or stirring. • Encourage pretend play using pots, spoons, dolls, figures or small-world toys. • Offer choices between two ingredients, activities or sensory items. • Support your child to practise personal care and everyday routines with clear prompts and praise.

MY COMMUNITY	MY COGNITION	MY CREATIVITY
PSHE and Cultural Development	Digital Literacy, Maths and Working World	Art and Music
This term, pupils will develop their understanding of rules, self-care, safety and important cultural events. In Autumn 1, our cultural development topic will be Make Your Mark, including International Dot Day, and we will recognise National Poetry Day. In PSHE, pupils will explore The World I Live In – Rules, learning about simple classroom and community rules, turn-taking and following familiar instructions. In Autumn 2, pupils will recognise Remembrance through appropriate stories, symbols and creative activities. Our PSHE focus will be Self-care, Support and Safety: Taking Care of Myself. Pupils will also explore Harvest for All through RE activities. Ways you can help your child at home: • Talk about simple family and home rules using clear words and symbols. • Practise taking turns and waiting during short games or everyday routines. • Encourage your child to ask for help and make choices about their personal care. • Share simple songs, stories or creative activities linked to Harvest, Remembrance or poetry.	This term, pupils will develop early maths, scientific thinking, observation and digital skills through practical, sensory and story-based learning. In Autumn 1, maths will focus on number and place value, including counting, recognising numbers, and exploring more and less. In Working World, pupils will investigate changes in materials through mixing, wetting, melting and dissolving. They will compare objects using same and different and explore features of the school environment. In digital literacy, pupils will create simple animations. In Autumn 2, maths will focus on measurement and time through familiar routines, sequencing and practical activities. Pupils will explore themes in books and investigate magnets. In digital literacy, they will use technology to make and explore music. Ways you can help your child at home: • Count everyday objects such as toys, snacks, steps or clothes. • Use words such as more, less, same and different during play and daily routines. • Explore safe material changes together, such as mixing ingredients or watching ice melt. • Talk about daily routines using first, then, next and last, and explore simple music-making apps or instruments.	This term, pupils will explore colour, materials, music and imaginative storytelling through expressive art and design. In Autumn 1, pupils will experiment with colour mixing and create magic-themed art using wax crayons or reactions with baking soda and turmeric. In design and technology, they will make clay pots. Music will focus on singing for pleasure, call-and-response songs, sensory music and resonance activities linked to The Magic Porridge Pot and other magic-themed songs. In Autumn 2, pupils will create fairy-tale art and explore popular music. They will make simple instruments and use them to create and copy sounds. Sensory music and resonance activities will link to The Three Billy Goats Gruff. Ways you can help your child at home: • Mix paint colours together and talk about the new colours you can see. • Use crayons, paint, clay or playdough to create magic or fairy-tale pictures and models. • Sing call-and-response songs and encourage your child to copy a sound, word or action. • Make simple instruments from safe household objects and explore loud, quiet, fast and slow sounds.