

Liden Academy
Liden Drive, Swindon, SN3 6EX
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FS2 Spring Term 4 Curriculum Letter

Are Eggs Alive?

This term in Foundation Stage 2 (FS2), we are learning about the life cycle of a chicken, and exploring farm life and where our food comes from.

Children will learn through the seven areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum using a cross-curricular means which will be delivered in a variety of adult directed, and child led activities, and through our play based continuous provision.

Personal, Social, Emotional Development (PSED)

Children will learn under Jigsaw piece 4 – Healthy Me

- I will be learning about the effects that healthy eating and exercise has on my body
- I will be learning about the importance of routine and sleep in promoting good health.
- I will be learning about keeping clean and know the importance of good hygiene.
- I will be learning and talking about keeping safe and managing risks with regard to meeting new challenges, including strangers.

Ideas on how you can support at home-

Talk to your child about the importance of eating healthy foods and drinking healthy drinks, and taking daily exercise. Explain why we need to keep clean, and have enough sleep. Emphasise the need to keep safe when at home or outside, and the dangers of talking to strangers.

Communication and Language (CL)

Communication and language development underpins all we do. Children will always be encouraged to talk freely during individual learning time, group activities, or one to one. This term children will be asked specific questions relating to our topic.



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These include-

What are healthy/unhealthy foods and drink? Where are these foods made? Where do they come from?

What is a farm?

What is a life cycle?

What changes happen during a life cycle of a chicken?

Ideas on how you can support at home-

- Talk to your child about what happens at a farm. Where does some of our food come from?
- Explore videos of life cycles on the internet- chicken and frog.
- Take a trip to the local lagoon and see if there is any frog spawn in there.
- Give your child plenty of time to talk about things of interest, as well as listen to conversations in the home. This will show them how normal conversation rules apply, such as pauses, not interrupting others during conversation, and will give value to their voice and opinion.
- Read to or let your child make up a story using a picture book or puppets. This will be great for increasing their vocabulary.

Physical Development (PD)

Physical development encompasses a range of both fine motor and gross motor skills. It also covers the awareness of the need to keep safe and healthy.

This term children will expand their fine motor skills through guided phonic sessions and writing opportunities. They will be given opportunities to safely use a range of cutting and building resources and tools throughout the term. In PE children will learn throwing and catching skills.

Ideas on how you can support at home-

- Threading beads or cotton reels onto string or string through hole punched card.
- Playing with playdough- kneading, rolling, and poking.
- Pushing coins through slots made in empty containers.
- Loom bands stretched over a peg board- These are easy to make with a piece of wood and nails.
- Baking- Making bread, stirring the cake mixture.

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- Chalking on the floor.
- Sweeping up/moping
- Going to the park
- Riding a bike or scooter
- Swimming
- Dough Disco

Maths (M)

Children will be covering the following areas: Numbers and Measure, Shape and Spatial Thinking.

Number

Children will begin by exploring numbers 9 & 10 and their place in the number system.

They will:

- Represent, compare and understand composition of these numbers to 10
- Match and sort a wide variety of objects and compare amounts.
- Through practical activities, look at number bonds to 10.
- Look at counting patterns beyond 10 where they have regular opportunities to count on and back beyond 10.
- Look more at adding and taking away by using real objects to see that the quantity of a group can be changed by taking items away or by adding more.

Measure, Shape and Spatial Thinking

- Explore and manipulate 3-D shapes through play. They will be introduced to the names of the shapes and be given opportunities to explore similarities and differences between them.
- Children will build on their earlier AB pattern work by introducing more complex patterns.
- Complete jigsaws and shape puzzles having the opportunities to select and rotate shapes to fill a given space. They will be encouraged to explain why they chose a particular shape and why a different shape wouldn't fit.
- They will also have opportunities to match arrangements of shapes, promoting the use of positional language.

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- They will finally look at how shapes can be combined and separated to make new shapes.

Ideas on how you can support at home-

- Provide a collection of loose parts of items to sort. Encourage the children to sort the items into sets and then compare the quantity in each set. Can you find a set with more than this one? Can you find 2 sets with the same quantity?
- Provide a variety of empty boxes, tubes, lids etc. Ask the children to make a model for a particular purpose e.g. build a bridge for the 3 Billy Goats, a new chair for Baby Bear. Encourage them to tell you about their model. Which shapes were easy to fasten together? Which shapes were difficult to fasten together?
- Look at examples of objects, wallpaper or fabric showing patterns from different cultures or traditions. Encourage the children to discuss and recreate the patterns and then to design their own patterns in a similar style.

Literacy (L)

Literacy lessons are underpinned by the key text: Dora's Eggs. The children will be encouraged to retell the story or make up new ones using puppets and small world resources.

Children will be encouraged to write words and sentences during morning activity time and English lessons. They will continue to learn sounds, and recap sounds, using the Read Write Inc Phonics scheme.

Ideas on how you can support at home-

- Share/ talk about stories that you read at home.
- Talk about letters and see if they can notice them in books, signs, everyday environment.
- Use a variety of resources to finger trace letters- lentils, pasta, flour, shaving foam, rice.
- Air write their name in the air.
- Practise forming letters using the phrases taught.
- Practise pinching the sounds in words to write words independently.
- Read daily with your child/ Practise Phonic sounds, and mark in your child's Reading Record.



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Understanding of the World (UW)

Children will use the interactive whiteboard to play simple age-related programmes.

They will also

- Observe the changes of live eggs in school/videos of live eggs.
- Explore life on a farm and learn where our food comes from by visiting Roves Farm/videos.
- Look for signs of Spring.
- Develop understanding of looking after animals
- Learn about Easter Celebrations.

Ideas on how you can support at home-

- Talk to your child about looking after animals.
- Discuss why we have Easter eggs
- Go on a walk and be 'Spring Spotters'. Discuss what changes have happened since Winter.

Expressive Art and Design (EAD)

Children will use puppets & story shelves to tell stories and play in the role-play area to widen their imaginations- Home Corner/ Farm Stall.

Children will be given opportunities to explore the art area – painting, printing, collage, junk modelling.

Ideas on how you can support at home-

Use recycled objects to create models and props for role-play.

British Values this term-

- We know we are all special.
- We treat everybody equally.
- We listen to and respect other people's opinions and values.



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Important Information and Dates:

PE- Our allocated PE day is Thursday. Children are to wear their school PE kit to school on this day. Please ensure your child is wearing only school PE kit and suitable sports trainers. They will not need to bring school uniform as they will remain in their kit all day.

Earrings and jewellery- Children are not to wear any form of jewellery to school. Only small studs are permitted and for health and safety reasons it is preferred that these are removed at home on PE days.

Coats, welly boots and change of clothes- Please ensure these are named and if taken home are back in school daily. Please place welly boots on the class stand outside the classroom doors.

As the weather is normally wet at this time of year, and we have a limited amount of puddle suits, we kindly ask that you provide your child with one so they can explore the outdoors environment and keep their clothes as clean as possible.

Reading Books and Reading Records-

Day	Book required back to school
Monday	Please bring Reading Record books to school. Lion Class - place Reading Record in the basket outside your classroom door. Tiger Class – children to place book bags in basket in the classroom.
Friday	Library Book (These are stamped inside) Please leave in your child's bag and we will change it.
Clear pouches are to be returned to school daily and kept in your child's bag. Your child's Phonics teacher will change them over every third day. Thank you!	
Please only bring in the books as stated. <u>Books will only be changed on the specified day so please remember to bring them in.</u> Thanks for your support.	

We realise that reading is a child's entry into lifelong success, so we actively encourage plenty of reading opportunities throughout the day. We need your support with this too through home reading using the

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books sent home as well as any others that you have access to. Every time your child reads to you, or you read to them, then please note it in the reading record. Each time your child reaches an increment of 20 reads they will be awarded a certificate.

Water bottle- Your child must bring in a water bottle daily, so they have access to a drink throughout the day.

Healthy snack- School provides mid-morning snack for all children.

Milk- Children, up to their 5th birthday, are entitled to free school milk. However, this has to be ordered through CoolMilk. Please contact the school office for more details or access the website <https://www.coolmilk.com/>

No Nut Policy- Please remember that we are a strictly No Nut school. Please ensure your child does not bring anything containing nuts or traces of nut into school.

Grapes- If you provide your child with grapes for lunch then please make sure they are cut in half long ways; cutting the other way is still a choking hazard.

Tapestry – Please do have a look at Tapestry regularly. The children’s week is summarised for you at the end of each week and Memos are posted if there is anything we need to inform you about. Please also do post WOW moments on Tapestry for us to see what the children are achieving at home.

Upcoming events and dates in Term 4 and Term 5

We understand that there are always so many dates and things to remember, so we are giving you notice of some upcoming events in Term 4 and 5. More details will follow nearer the date for each event.

Event	Date
First Day of Term 4	Monday 19 th February 2024
Parent’s Evening	Monday 19 th February 2024 at 3.30-5.30pm

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	Wednesday 21 st February 2024 at 5pm-7pm
Roves Farm Trip	Thursday 22 nd February 2024. Please read the reminder sent on Monday 19.2.24.
Learning Together Session 6 Expressive Arts and Design	Wednesday 6 th March 2024 at 2:25 – 3pm in Lion and Tiger classrooms.
World Book Day	Thursday 7 th March- Details to follow
Marvellous Mother's Day Tea Party	Friday 8 th March Lion and Tiger Classrooms- Details to follow
Comic Relief	Friday 15 th March- Details to follow
Last day of Term 4	Thursday 28 th March 2024
First Day of Term 5	Monday 15 th April 2024
Bank Holiday	No School- Monday 6 th May
Last Day of Term 5	Friday 24 th May 2024

If you have any questions, then please either speak to us at the beginning of the day to arrange a suitable time to meet or contact the school office and they will inform us and we will contact you.

Donna Coe

Tereza Possolo

Lion Class Teacher

Tiger Class Teacher

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