Autumn Term in Primary Red

The Equals Semi-Formal Curriculum

We have just started to implement the Equals Semi-Formal Curriculum which focuses on building essential life skills through engaging practical learning. We will begin with these 5 areas and as we progress we will introduce additional strands of the curriculum.

In My Thinking and Problem Solving

TIER 1 Memory building

TIER 2 Sabotage!! Recognition of a problem

TIER 3 Independent solutions

TIER 4 Generalisation

TIER 5 Self-belief and confidence

In My Independence

Knowing body parts.

Identifying items of clothing.

Putting on and taking off various items of clothing.

Development of the fine and gross motor control needed.

In My Communication

To feel safe and actively engage with dynamic communications.

To gain the attention of another person.

To follow a simple single instruction.

To work on 'I want' communications.

To engage in intensive interaction.

In Listening and Attention

To engage in 'Bucket time'

To expand on attention and engagement within lessons and activities.

In My Play and Leisure

To explore free play.

To engage in one to one or small group games.

Top Tips for Learning at Home

1. Build Communication Into Everyday Routines

Turn daily tasks into language opportunities. When making a snack, name each step (e.g. "bread – butter – spread") and encourage your child to choose between two items ("banana or apple?"). This helps develop communication, early decision-making, and sequencing skills.

2. Practise Independence Through Simple Jobs

Give your child small, achievable tasks that build independence. They could help lay the table, put laundry in a basket, or water plants. These activities develop motor skills, problem-solving, and confidence.

3. Use Play to Explore Early Concepts

Use toys or everyday objects to practise early learning skills. Sort socks by colour, count steps as you climb, or build towers and knock them down while saying "up" and "down." This helps develop early maths skills and understanding of cause and effect.

Don't forget to log on to Evidence For Learning (EFL) to see what your child has been learning in school this week. Contact the school office for log in details or to reset passwords.