

**What can we learn from Julia Donaldson Books?**

**Project Overview**

Our project this term is all about “What can we learn from Julia Donaldson books?” We will be immersing ourselves in a plethora of Julia Donaldson books and investigating what we can learn from the stories.

For the story ‘Monkey Puzzle’ we will be hatching butterflies and looking at how we change as we grow up. We will be planning a party for the story ‘The Princess and the Wizard’ and learning about colours and colour mixing. We will investigate the properties of materials to design and build a boat for the story ‘Jack and the Flum Flum Tree’ as well as learn about Harvest Festival, looking after people and staying healthy. For Halloween we will focus on rhyming words and create a spell linked to the story ‘Room on the Broom’. We will look at the different places we have travelled to and where the ‘Snail and the Whale’ visit. We will also write another adventure that the bath toys could go on at the end of ‘The Flying Bath’ story.

The children will then produce a page for a class book based on ‘Charlie Cooks Favourite Book’ explaining which is their favourite book and what they have learned; we will present the book to you as partof our exhibition**.**

The children will be hooked into their learning through a Gruffalo hunt, story sharing of the Gruffalo and the Gruffalo’s child and large collaborative craft activities.

**Immersive Environment**

Our classroom will be transformed into the different Julia Donaldson stories including:

Cave Baby – Cave with blackboard walls for the children to draw and write on.

Gruffalo – forest area

Monkey Puzzle – jungle area

Snail and the Whale – Various destinations including a volcano

Tiddler – under the sea area

**Project Based Learning**

Reception/FS2

Term 1

2016/2017

**Curriculum Opportunities**

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Show sensitivity to others (e.g. animals)

Talk about likes and dislikes, regarding diet

Can describe self

Show awareness of own feelings and knows that some actions can hurt others’ feelings

Communication and Language

Listening carefully to instructions

Speaking clearly, giving instructions clearly

Using talk to connect ideas

Using different tenses in speech

Physical Development

Holding pencils and pens with correct grip

Handling of one handed tools (scissors)

Looking at why hygiene practices are important to good health

Experiment with different ways of moving

Talk about healthy eating

Literacy

Labelling of the butterfly lifecycle

Writing our names and invitations

Label a boat design with materials

Write a spell

Write a new page for an adventure story

Mathematics

Counting to 10, 20 and beyond

Matching numerals to quantities

One more and one less than a given number

Size ordering

Number doubling

Estimating and timing in seconds

Capacity including standard and non-standard measures

Understanding the World

Showing care and concern for living things and the environment

Talk about ourselves – looking at similarities and differences

Complete a simple program on a computer

Sharing our family customs and routines

Expressive Arts and Design

Explore a variety of materials

Creating, designing and making boats

Manipulation of materials

Exploring colours and colour mixing

**Project Outcomes**

This project will involve the children using cross-curricular skills to help them answer the essential question of “What can we learn from Julia Donaldson books?”

The final project will be to make a class book. The exhibition on 30th November will consist of the class sharing the book they have created and what they have learned from Julia Donaldson books. The children will also get to share their favourite book.

All exhibitions will be in the hall, times for each class are as follows:

Fir 9:30am, Willow 11:00am and Cherry 1:30pm.

**Project Enhancements**

Visits – Classroom in the Woods (Date TBC)

Visitors – School Nurse, Not Home Alone Charity

Class books – Monkey Puzzle, The Princess and the Wizard, Jack and the Flum Flum Tree, Room on the Broom, The Snail and the Whale, The Flying Bath and other Julia Donaldson stories.

Creative Home Learning – Can you create a 3D model or collage of your favourite destination?

**Project Timeline**

Focus 1

How have I changed?

Monkey Puzzle

Focus 2

How can we celebrate a birthday?

The Princess and the Wizard

Focus 3 (a)

What makes a good boat?

Jack and the Flum Flum Tree

Focus 3 (b)

How can we take care of ourselves and others?

Jack and the Flum Flum Tree

Focus 4

Can I create the perfect spell?

Room on the Broom

Focus 5

Where would you like to visit?

Snail and the Whale

Focus 6

Who will we save next?

The Flying Bath

**How can you help?**

If you feel you can help us with our project this term we would love to hear from you!

You can also help with the project by doing the following at home:

* Discussing places you have been, who you were with and what you did.
* Organise a photograph of your child as a baby to bring in to school the first week back.

Useful website:

<http://www.juliadonaldson.co.uk/> - This website has got lots of information about Julia Donaldson and the books she has written.