**Home Learning activities: -**

**Week 1**

The focus for reading this week is 'Instructions'.  We are planning to read a simple recipe to bake  biscuits.  The link is below for you to try at home.

Baking together is a great activity for the children to explore sensory play. Here are some ideas to try out using the flour:-

* Put some flour on a tray or in a bowl and let the children use their hands to find out how it feels
* Sprinkle flour from above and watch how it settles onto the tray
* Use your finger to make marks and patterns into the flour; perhaps you could write your name or initial letter
* Fill small containers / scoops / egg cups with flour and talk about the container being 'full'; then 'empty'
* Measure out the correct amount needed for the recipe
* Stir and mix the flour with the ingredients
* Use fingers to squeeze the mixture together

It might get a bit messy, but we hope you have fun!  At the end it would be a good opportunity for the children to help clearing up.  Why not give them a cloth or wipe to help wipe down the table.  A bowl of warm water to 'help' wash some plastic bowls; again good opportunity for filling and emptying and splashing too!

In number work we are doing the Speckled Frogs song.  There is a link below to a lovely version on the CBeebies website.  Here are some ideas to link in with this at home:-

* Find some plastic animals to splash into a small amount of water on a tray or in a bowl
* Show the children how to count out the animals as they 'splash into the water; count out how many left each time and at the end talk about 'none' left and 'all gone'
* Use your fingers to count along; an adult can count out the amount of frogs in the song using the children's fingers
* Hide animals under a cloth and search for the hidden animal
* Pretend to be a frog and do some frog jumps; hold hands with an adult as you jump and the adult can count out how many jumps you do.  How many jumps can you do?

In P.E. we are moving and dancing to music and practising 'stop' and 'go' as well as stretching our bodies 'up' and 'out' wide.  Some ideas to try at home:-

* Have a dance to your favourite music
* Play a game of musical statues, or stop when an adult says 'stop' and holding up a red stop sign
* Play a Simon says type game and see if your child can stretch up ,tall', stretch out 'wide' with arms outstretched
* Copy movements of dancing, jumping, stretching
* Or even have a go at some Joe Wicks PE videos (which can be found on YouTube)

In R.E. we listen to a song 'This Little Light of Mine' to get us ready for the lesson.  The link can be found below.  We have started to look at different 'logos' and 'symbols', especially our class 'Squirrels' picture and Brookfield's school logo.  Following are some activities you could do at home:-

* Listen to the music and switch a torch 'on' to shine on the table / wall / floor.  Can you move your head to follow the light pattern as it moves around the room?
* Look for logos you might see around your home
* Look on the school website to find the 'Squirrels' page & Brookfield's logo
* Draw your own picture of a Squirrel / look at pictures of squirrels / feel some soft material to link in with how the squirrel may feel

For Exploring Technology we will be introducing a 'Looking game' and finding out how to press 'play' on the interactive board to make the rhyme play, as well as pressing buttons and using switches to make the equipment work.  Some activities you may enjoy at home:-

* Collect 2 or 3 plastic bowls and turn them over on the table, hide a small chocolate or sweet under a one of the turned over bowls and ask 'where is it?' To make this a bit harder try moving the bowls around when the sweet has been placed underneath.  Some children may even like to hide a sweet for the adult to play the game too and you can start taking 'my turn, your turn'.
* Find some toys or a games that need to be switched 'on' to play.  Talk about how we make things work & turn 'on'
* Show the children how to press 'play' on song clip to make the music start.  There is a lovely version of 'Twinkle Twinkle' saved as a link below

We hope you enjoy trying out some of these activities at home.  Even if you only try out one or two ideas we hope you have fun.  It would be lovely to see any photos of how you get on too.