



Nursery News

Spring Term Update!



Thursday 9th January 2025

Dear Parents,

We would like to wish all of our children and their families a very Happy New Year! It's been lovely to see everyone back to Nursery this week and the children have been sharing their favourite moments from the Christmas holiday period which has been lovely to hear. The children have settled beautifully into Nursery and have welcomed our new Nursery friends who have started this week. We would like to extend a warm welcome to them and their families. We have provided a little update about what is happening over the first half of the Spring term and as always any queries please see staff. We would just like to provide you with dates for the coming weeks.

- **Monday 6th January;** Return to Nursery
- **Wednesday 22nd January;** Nursery SNOW themed day (See below for more information)
- **Wednesday 12th February;** Teddy Bear's Picnic (See below for more information)
- **Friday 14th February;** Valentine's Day (NON-UNIFORM)
- **Thursday 20th February;** School finishes for half term
- **Friday 21st February;** INSET Day (NO CHILDREN in school)

HALF TERM HOLIDAY

- **Monday 3rd March;** Return to Nursery
- **Monday 3rd March;** Nursery Parental Consultation Week – further information to follow (an opportunity to come in to speak with teachers regarding your child's development – 10 minute appointments)
- **Wednesday 5th March;** Nursery Character Ball (See below for more information)
- **Thursday 6th March;** World Book Day (favourite book and come dressed in pyjamas)
- **Monday 10th March;** Science Week 'Change and Adapt' (More information to follow)



Snow Day

Wednesday 22nd January

We have started a new learning topic 'Where does it snow?' and to support children's learning we will be hosting a snow day. We will be using a snow machine outdoors (to ensure we have snow) and completing lots of little activities including making ice wands (breadsticks dipped in chocolate and sprinkles), snowmen marshmallows (decorating marshmallows with icing), having hot chocolate round the campfire and lots of snow inspired crafts. **Allergies and dietary requirements will be catered for.** If the weather forecast (wet weather) impacts us we will provide alternative arrangements for this date!

Teddy Bears Picnic

Wednesday 12th February

Children are invited to bring their special teddy/soft toy of their choice to Nursery.



This is to support our Personal Social Emotional Development focus alongside calendar events Teddy Day (10th), Promise Day (11th) and Hug Day (12th).

We will be focusing on our own feelings and those of others.

Children will also be looking at writing letters in their name to create their own special teddy bear tag for their special visitor.

Children will be preparing a picnic in Nursery and enjoying this with their special teddy/soft toy in Nursery.

Nursery Character Ball

Wednesday 5th March

To ensure all of our children celebrate World Book Day in Nursery we will be hosting our own character ball. Children will be able to come dressed as their favourite book character – this can be anything they choose. However if your child does not enjoy dressing up they can come in non-uniform. We will be having a little party for part of the session with a themed snack.



World Book Day

Thursday 6th March

Children are invited into Nursery in their pyjamas and asked to bring their favourite book (please write your child's name in this).

Lending Library

Week beginning; Monday 20th January

We will begin sending reading books and diaries out in the third week of the term.

Children in the **Early Red** and **Morning Blue** groups will bring their first books home on **Wednesday 22nd January**. These diaries and books should be **returned each Monday** so that new books can be chosen and staff have the opportunity to respond to entries made allowing these to be redistributed each Wednesday. Please note if your child hands their book in on a Wednesday staff will not respond to entries as there is no time during the Nursery session.

Children in the **Full Time Purples**, **Afternoon** and **Late Green** groups will bring their first books home on **Friday 24th January**.

These diaries and books should be **returned each Wednesday** so that new books can be chosen and staff have the opportunity to respond to entries made allowing these to be redistributed each Friday. Please note if your child hands their book in on a Friday staff will not respond to entries as there is no time during the Nursery session.

As explained in the Parents as Partners sessions children select their own book. We ask that you share the books with your child, before bed is always a lovely time. If possible we ask that children extend their learning using the book. This could be...

- A nature walk
- A craft activity
- A picture of their favourite character or information they discovered
- A photograph of an experience they have

We ask that you write a sentence or two about your child's interaction with the book. This could be...

- How they handled the book, e.g. turned the pages
- What they said about it
- Whether they enjoyed or didn't enjoy the book (either is fine)

We ask that you complete **only one page** each week and **include the date and title of the book**.

There is no right or wrong way to do this and the most important thing is that children share the book with a grown up to develop that love of reading.

Nursery PE

Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons

We will begin PE sessions in Nursery to support children's gross and fine motor skills. Nursery children are invited to come to school wearing their PE Kit. This is...

- School jumper
- School t-shirt
- Navy, grey or black jogging bottoms or leggings (shorts in the warmer weather) with **no logos on**
 - Trainers (these can be any colour)

Children will begin their sessions from next week however please do not worry if they do not have the correct bottoms for next week. We ask correct bottoms are in place by the end of the half term. All children in Nursery can wear PE kit on these days.

Lending Library
Week beginning; Monday 20th January

An example of a diary...

10//01/25

The Gruffalo



Frankie's favourite character was the Gruffalo.
He wanted to paint a picture of him.

These are some ideas of how your diary may look. These are entries based around the story The Gruffalo. We hope these give you ideas how you can link everyday experiences to stories and information books as well.

Children are welcome to write their name in diaries or even letters and numbers they have been learning.

10//01/25

The Gruffalo



Frankie loves the woods and we talked about our walks through the woods just like the mouse in the story.

10//01/25

The Gruffalo



Frankie loved that the mouse made up lots of recipes in the story. We made cakes this weekend.

Please note...

We know some weeks you may be very busy and may not get chance to complete a diary entry. Please just enjoy the book and write a short sentence about the text as suggested instead. Children may not initially want to draw in these however they share them in group and when they have the chance to show others it often encourages this.

Spring 1 – Where does it Snow?

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children can develop their ability to...

- Be more confident in new social situations that arise in Nursery and outside
- Play with other children in a group and extend the play ideas
- Be aware of others feelings and how their behaviour can impact on others feelings
- Show care and concern for others
- Continue to be an independent learner in the new Nursery provision and be able to select resources for their learning

Physical Development

Children can develop...

- Their ability to help with their coat including putting on, taking off and helping with the zip
- Their skills in taking part in a group activity and work as part of a team
- Being able to collaborate with others to manage large items such as the crates in the den building area or the large wooden blocks in the construction
- Their pencil grip when mark making

Mathematics

Children can explore...

- Number rhymes to support counting like behaviour and saying numbers in order.
- Counting puppets to support sequencing of numbers.
- Counting everyday objects both indoors and outdoors using number cards within key group sessions to enable children to become familiar with recognition of numbers 1-5.
- Experimenting with their own symbols and marks to represent numbers
- Talk about and explore 2D shapes using informal language
- Creating pictures with 2D shapes
- Talk about and explore 3D shapes using informal language
- Create models using 3D blocks and resources



Expressive Arts and Design

Children can explore...

- Engaging in pretend play and developing complex stories through the small worlds they create
- Explore colour mixing with watercolours and look at shades of blue and white
- Joining different materials and exploring textures
- Creating closed shapes using a continuous line and use these shapes to begin to represent objects
- Use drawing to represent ideas like loud noises

Communication and Language

Children can develop their ability to...

- Listen to longer stories and recall what happens
- Understand 'why' questions such as 'Why was the penguin sad?'
- Use the language they hear in their own play.
- Use longer sentences of four to six words during group time and during independent play
- Sing a range of nursery rhymes and songs from music sessions in Nursery including Tiny Tweeties.

Understanding the World

Children can explore...

- The world around them using all of their senses to do so
- Collections of materials with similar and different properties
- Talking about what they see using a wide range of vocabulary
- Science based experiments and predict what they think may happen
- Carrying out a science experiment and talk about the changes in materials and the changes they notice

Vocabulary

PSED - Friend, friendship, different, same, kind, special, unique, individual, independent, family, group, key worker

STORIES – story, author, illustrator, front cover, title, pages, turn, fiction, non-fiction, information, facts

LITERACY – Mark making, pencil, grip, name, letter, picture, drawing, phonics, letter sound, rhyme, clap, syllables

MATHS - Number, count, one, two, three, four, five, rhyme, how many?, pattern, repeat, 2D shape, 3D shape, sides, corners, straight, flat, round, circle, triangle, square, rectangle, cube, sphere, cuboid

ART – colour, colour name, mix, create, primary, secondary, colour names, material, texture, closed shape

UW – explore, investigate, see, smell, taste, touch, hear, materials, experiment, predict, guess, observe

Stories To Explore

Children can explore these stories during group time at the end of sessions. They could be used as key texts also...

- Snow Bears
- Lost and Found
- The Night Iceberg
- Elmer in the Snow
- The Big Dark
- A Dot in the Snow
- Bear Snores On
- One Snowy Night
- Non-fiction texts linked to Winter, The Arctic etc.
- Non-fiction texts linked to animals that live in cold climates

The half term plans for Nursery are on our school website.

Nursery Rhymes, Songs and Poems

All rhymes can be found on...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-songs-index/zhwdgwx>

- The Bear went over the mountain
- When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears
 - Row, row, row your boat
 - Polly put the kettle on
 - The Magic Porridge Pot

• **Tiny Tweeties – Winter Songs**

Literacy

Children can explore...

- Sharing a range of stories together in key worker group and engage in lots of discussions about what they have read.
- Non-fiction books and discuss that these provide information and use these to find out more about Winter
 - That print has meaning
 - That print can have different purposes
 - Pages are sequenced
- That we read English text from left to right and top to bottom

A super start to Spring term...



A fun week catching up with friends, singing with Tiny Tweeties on Tuesday and building dens!



Nursery Fund

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to Nursery Fund this half term. Winter warming snacks are continuing to be on offer on set days – these will include porridge, beans or scrambled egg on toast and different toast toppings. Cereal and fruit are available daily. The children love their snacks!



Name Labels

A polite reminder that children have all coats, hats, cardigans, jumpers and shoes labelled. We ask they are clearly visible in all of your child's uniform.

Bags



We ask that children **DO NOT bring bags** to Nursery. Any spare clothing should be sent in and left in children's peg bags. We also ask **NO TOYS**.

Nursery Nature School

Children have loved their Nature School sessions so far. They have enjoyed den building this week and next week are looking to make fat balls to feed the birds especially the robin that has been watching the children. We ask that children bring in wellingtons if possible. Please send in hats and gloves for outdoors.

Thank you for your continued support!

Mrs Bell, Mrs Coates, Mrs Batten, Mrs Maggiore, Miss Gandy, Miss Stockwell, Mr Routledge and Mrs Goodall

thank you!

