

YEAR GROUP OVERVIEW



Nursery – Spring 1

Topic – Explorers Here We Go!

Explorers here we go! This half term we will become explorers looking at texts such as 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and 'Elmer and the Lost Treasure'. We hope your little explorers are ready!

Communication and Language (Speaking and Listening)

Language is a key focus for us in nursery. Our 'wondrous words', new vocabulary from books we read, provides us with a starting point for this. This term we begin to develop using longer sentences using words like 'because'. These are heavily modelled and developed using the nursery areas. We also develop the children's ability to ask questions and explain what they are doing using a growing vocabulary. We talk about what they are doing now and what might happen later or tomorrow. Our topic themed role play areas encourage interaction with others in small groups as well as our small world areas. Snack time is used for language development – asking questions and developing manners such as please and thank you.

Literacy (Reading and Writing)

The modelling of reading is key so in this Spring term there is a focus on showing the children how predict what could happen next in a book and continue to develop a love of listening to stories and learning facts from non-fiction books. The children are encouraged to repeat words and phrases from stories that are read to them. We will introduce alliteration and ask them to point out when they hear it at a basic level. Writing at this stage is trying to copy some letters of their name and tailoring this to each child as an individual. We ask if they can identify what their paintings or drawing mean and when they try writing, they can say what they think it means. Mark making is still a huge part of nursery at this stage for a lot of children, making lines and marks with a pencil.

Maths (Number and Shape, Space and Measure)

Singing number songs and listening to number stories happens continuously in nursery throughout the day. The modelling and development of mathematical vocabulary such as more, less, one, two, three, lots, fewer is highly evident when the children are learning in our play-based areas and helps them to apply new maths words they have learnt.

Counting of things is a key focus in term one so that the children start to develop a sense of number. This term we look to expand naming sets up to 5! We draw awareness to shape properties and categorising them in size order using words such as 'shorter' or 'taller' and we develop language further surround weight using words like 'lighter' and 'heavier'. Capacity is described as looking whether something is full, half full or empty.

Personal Development (P.S.H.E.)

Relationships: We learn who are the special people in their lives (family, friends, carers), and what makes them special through a range of circle time activities.

Understanding the World (Geography, History, Science and Computing)

Our science focus will be split into two topics, 'Materials and Seasonal Changes' and 'Animals Including Humans'. We will learn about different materials and why they are used to make things with, using our sense to explore and describe them. We will investigate why we use different materials for clothing as the seasons change. We will also be looking at pets and vets, how we look after animals and how to respect the world we live in.

We will continue to talk about health and well-being linked to technology, particularly during Safer Internet Week in February.

Expressive Arts (Art and Music)

Singing and performing songs is at the heart of our nursery musical experience. We teach a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs to support this. Children have access to a range of percussion instruments where the children can become composers in their own classroom. In art,

our first half term explores print using a range of materials, tools, and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. We will be printing different textures looking at the differences between thick and thin, long and short marks, soft printing and painting with bundles of shredded paper.

Physical Development (P.E.)

Both gross and fine motor skill development is key at the nursery stage. Our 'Finger Gym' will provide many opportunities to manipulate objects such as pinching and posting objects. Movement skills will be developed through a variety of physical activities and parachute games along with core strength development. Balancing on one leg is a tricky skill for young children which will be mastered throughout the term in a variety of ways.

The children will also develop their gymnastic skills through the topic of 'Animals and their Habitats'. Children explore creating shapes, balances, and jumps and begin to develop rocking and rolling. They show an awareness of space and how to use it safely and perform basic skills on the floor and apparatus. They copy, create, remember and repeat short sequences. They begin to understand using levels and directions when traveling and balancing.

Religious Education (R.E.)

Special Books: We will be sharing and talking about our favourite books or books that are special to them if they were a gift for example. We will also look at special books from different religions and see how they can look very different to the ones we have in school! We will also be finding out about the Christian celebration of Easter and Hindu celebration of Holi.