



Happy New Year! Welcome back, everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful festive break. We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead, especially as we welcome new starters to our Nursery. This term, we will be discovering our natural world through our topics: 'Into the Woods' and 'How Does Your Garden Grow?'. We'll embark on adventures such as visits to the park and farm to experience our topics first hand so that children can develop an understanding of the environments and the creatures that inhabit it. Various celebrations throughout the term such as Lunar New Year and Eid allow us to learn about and compare other cultures. Here's to a fun-filled term of learning and discovery!

Important Dates:

- Park Visits – WC 27/01/25
- Teddy Bears Picnic – 13/02/25
- World Book Day – 06/03/25
- Parents Meeting – WC 10/03/25



Home Learning

Choosing a shared story for home will now take place on Friday mornings during Family Friday. Families can choose a book to take home which will then be returned the following week. Please come along and choose a lovely story to read at home!

Nursery Rhymes to practise at home:

- Sleeping Bunnies
- Round and Round the Garden
- Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear Turn around
- Twinkle Twinkle
- Wheels on the Bus



Stories:

Spring 1

- **Goldilocks and the Three Bears**
- **We're going on a Bear Hunt**

This half term we delve into the world of Bears through the above familiar stories. We will read the fairy tale of Goldilocks and think about where the story is set (the woods). To enhance our storytelling abilities we will make and use our own masks and props in our story to retell it. Repeated refrains from the story will be said using loud and proud voices and we will use and create our own story maps.



Spring 2

- **Jasper's Beanstalk**
- **Hungry Caterpillar**

In Spring 2 we use the stories above to enhance our learning about life cycles and growing. We will use sequential language to order a story and create oral recounts about how to grow a beanstalk. Non-fiction texts will also enhance our learning this half term as we look at the different parts of plants.



Communication and Language

During Spring Term we are working on asking or answering simple questions with our key worker. We provide opportunities to ask and answer simple questions about our learning and about stories that are being read. During Key Person time we are also learning to retell simple past experiences, which allows us to build our narrative skills. We will use Colourful Semantics and Box clever to learn to speak in 'who' and 'what doing' sentences. We aim to express ourselves using phrases of 4-6 words, promoting clarity and fluency. We will also introduce Story Scribing this half term, which encourages children to create their own stories and act them out for their friends. This encourages creativity and Literacy Development. This blend of activities helps ensure children not only enjoy their learning but also build a strong foundation in communication and language.



Phonics

Spring 1: We will develop an understanding of word awareness and knowing that sentences are made up of individual words. We will clap sentences, make silly sentences and then play games to help us to recognise where one word ends and another begins. We will begin to understand that words can be segmented into syllables.

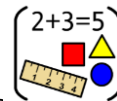


Spring 2: In Spring 2 we will delve into the world of rhyme and explore rhymes through nursery rhymes and stories.

Maths

Spring 1: In Spring 1 we will be practising counting, where children will count objects, say the number names in order and also begin to count actions. Children will begin to recognise that anything can be counted and show an interest in this in their play. We will also explore patterns in our environment as well as delve into learning about length and height.

Spring 2: In Spring 2 we will learn all about the **Number 3**, including recognising triangles. We will count 3, show 3 on our fingers and begin to say how the number 3 is made. We will also introduce using sequential language such as 'first and last' 'before and after'.



PSHE:

Now we have settled into Nursery, we are really focusing on extending our play further by elaborating on play ideas, making our play more deep and meaningful and by beginning to seek out others to join in their play.

To learn about keeping healthy we will learn about and try healthy foods as well as discuss the importance of good oral health and hand hygiene.

This term we will also introduce our Bankside learning cogs, focusing specifically on resilience, independence, pride and enquiry. During Key Person time we will learn to reflect on our learning and talk about which cog we have used to help us.



Physical Development

We like to move it move it! As always we will be constantly active in our wonderful and large indoor and outdoor space. Outside we will make obstacles using large planks and wide beams and learn to balance carefully on these. Through play and outdoor games we will also work on developing our ball skills. We will work on kicking, rolling and throwing.

We want to make the muscles in our fingers strong so our provision this half term will include smaller and thinner tools such as beads and boards and thin paintbrushes. We are aiming to show more accuracy in our mark making and drawing and create pictures using circles and lines.



Expressive Arts and Design

As always, children have access to arts, design and role play activities daily in their provision. However, through our topic around growing, we will create observational drawings of flowers and other things that we have found in the garden.

A focus in provision is to continue to develop our imagination when making models in different areas of the classroom and use our reflection cog to evaluate them and think about how we could further improve them.

Being imaginative and creative is at the forefront of all we do in Nursery. This half term as we introduce story scribing, we hope to develop lots of budding authors! We have set up a performance area full of masks, instruments and puppets to help children to allow children to develop their expressive skills.



Understanding The World

We will embark on adventures that spark curiosity and wonder. We will discover the various creatures and critters that call the forest home, from chirpy birds to bustling insects. We will also take trips to the local park and farm, where we can explore nature up close. We will meet farm animals and learn about their habitats. Growing our own beanstalks is another exciting project; it's amazing to watch the transformation from tiny seeds into tall plants right before our eyes!

Additionally, we look at flowers, exploring their colours and shapes, which brings the beauty of nature into our classroom. Not to forget, we celebrate cultural diversity by learning about Lunar New Year and Eid, introducing the children to different traditions and festivities that enrich our understanding

of the world around us.



Attendance Ladder



ClassDojo

<https://www.classdojo.com/en-gb/?redirect=true>



Are you on Class Dojo? If not, ask your teacher for log in details and sign up today!

