



Nursery Newsletter



Spring 1—2023/2024

Notices and reminders

Happy new year and a warm welcome to 2024! We hope you enjoyed a wonderful break filled with lots of fun and laughter with friends and family. Now that the weather is getting colder, we would appreciate any support that you can offer your child with practising putting on their scarves, gloves and zipping up their coats independently.



Key dates

Tuesday 2nd January 2024—start of term

Monday 8th January 2024—prospective Reception parent open morning (9:15am)

Tuesday 9th January 2024 – Reception coffee afternoon (2:30pm)

Monday 15th January 2024—INSET day (Nursery and academy closed to all children)

Thursday 1st February 2024—parent information afternoon (2:00pm)

Friday 9th February—Sports for Schools athlete visit and workshop (further details to follow)

Friday 9th February 2024—end of half term



Communication and Language

The children's listening and attention skills will be developed through stories and circle time games. Through stories, the children will be developing their understanding of what is happening, recall events and answer simple questions about characters and the text. The children will be learning new vocabulary and using this in their play. We will be using interventions such as Wellcomm, Colourful Semantics and Attention Bucket to develop children's communication and language.



Physical Development

For gross motor development, the children will understand the purpose of equipment and how to be safe when using it or exploring movements. They will practise climbing up and down using alternate feet. The children will continue to use their fine motor skills to make snips or cut lines in paper as well as developing new skills such as lacing sewing cards. They will be encouraged to use their small motor skills to do things independently, such as fasten their coat.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will be given the opportunity to talk in small groups and to develop their confidence in speaking in front of others. The children will take part in circle times, where they will share some of their past experiences such as what they did over the Christmas holidays.

Children will explore the emotions of happy, sad, angry, cross, upset and scared and be supported to use language to express these.

Literacy

Our learning will be underpinned by high quality texts: "Each Peach Pear Plum", "Peepo" and "My World, Your World". The children will spend time talking about the stories, recalling events and expressing their likes and dislikes. They will be developing their book handling skills e.g. holding it correctly and turning pages. In our early phonics sessions, the children will enjoy and join in with nursery rhymes to develop their awareness of rhythm and rhyme. The children will be counting and clapping syllables in words. The children's love of writing will be developed by being encouraged to draw freely and ascribe meaning to their mark making.

Mathematics

Last term, the children spent some time looking at the number 1 and number 2. They have been able to show these amounts on their fingers.

This half term, the children will move on to think about the number 3. They will be recognising 3 dots, like they see on a dice, and showing 3 on their fingers. The children will be looking at the numeral 3 and matching it to the same quantity.

The children will be counting up to 5 objects knowing the last number reached is the total.



Understanding the World

The children will be thinking about our local area and what features they can recognise and name. The children will then head off further afield to explore England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

They will meet some friends who will tell us all about where they come from and share their own special story. During our adventures, the children will find out about the traditional foods, traditional tales and famous landmarks from these different countries!



Expressive Arts and Design

The children will continue to use their senses to investigate different materials, exploring and manipulating them. They will develop their own ideas and make decisions about which to use. They will learn how to create enclosed shapes and continuous lines using drawing materials. Opportunities to be imaginative and express themselves will be present through weekly themes. The children will continue to learn songs as well as create their own.



How you can help at home

- How can we keep warm in the winter? Discuss different suggestions with your child.
- Encourage independence, for example putting their own coat on. Try the over the head method.
- Go for a local walk and see what you can find.
- Do you have family that live abroad or in a different part of the UK? Find it on a map. Video call and ask what they have where they live.
- Sing Nursery Rhymes.
- Number Hunt – Can you find 1, 2 and 3?
- Playing dice games at home will be a great way to practice seeing number patterns.

Suggested books for reading

Explore **Traditional Tale** stories, for example Jack and the Beanstalk and Little Red Riding Hood.

You Choose – This is a great text to explore choice and develop the children's expression of their likes and dislikes.

