

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, we are looking forward to the Spring Term. We would like to say a warm welcome to all our new friends and families at our Nursery!

Our theme for this first half term will be 'Animals around the World' and after half term we will be thinking about 'Superheroes and how we keep 'healthy and strong'.

We will also be observing the changing of the seasons and celebrating Winter and Spring festivals including Chinese New Year, Holi and Easter.

The children are working towards achieving 8 goals, learning through both child-led play and adult guided activities...

8 Nursery Goals	Main focus this term
Use pretend play to think beyond the 'here and now'	<p>Explore a wider range of activities and play for longer periods of time. Children begin to share, acknowledge, copy and work with one another.</p> <p>Make plans and organise resources, negotiating with one another for which resources to use. Encourage the children ask one another questions about their play, they use longer sentences and link sentences.</p> <p>Start to think about other people's feelings. Practice some self-regulation routines.</p> <p>Become increasingly confident and safe when using, scissors, trowels, tweezers, hammers, screwdrivers, logs, sticks, playdough and mud kitchen equipment. Take photos and use iPads.</p> <p>Understanding why rules are important. Put on own coats and pull up zips.</p>
Create your own story.	<p>Children respond to stories. They ask and answer questions and make links with their own life experiences -use the internet to answer some questions (adult support).</p> <p>Explore characters and settings in stories. Make up a story and retell as part of a group.</p> <p>Learn new vocabulary and more complex forms of language. Have extended conversations about stories.</p> <p>Can find a rhyming pair.</p>
Write at least 2 letters of your name.	<p>Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle.</p> <p>Children talk about their marks with others and give meaning to these. Can draw lines and circles, zig zags and c shape.</p> <p>Become familiar with language of directionality such as 'up, down, round and round'. Children can find their name card and look at it when attempting to write their name.</p> <p>Can copy sounds such as ssss and use the correct mouth movements to make simple sounds. Write one letter of their name correctly.</p> <p>Starting to hear initial sounds in words. Explore shapes.</p>



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Become an intrepid map making explorer	<p>Use small world equipment to create a 3D map of a farm/town. Draw road maps for cars to drive on. Add features and label them. Discuss routes and locations.</p> <p>Explore features and characteristics of China and the arctic regions.</p> <p>Draw zigzags and c shapes.</p> <p>Start to Identify initial sounds in words both orally and in print.</p> <p>Start to blend sounds together.</p> <p>Touch count to find totals.</p> <p>Give robot commands using position words.</p> <p>Discuss our climate and other climates of the world.</p> <p>Draw a simple map of a farm / zoo</p> <p>Use Vocabulary such as Environment, Place, Feature, World, City, Map, Similar and Different.</p>
Perform your own dance to an audience.	<p>Joining in with dancing and ring games.</p> <p>Follow simple instructions such as "Clap your hands" or "Let us turn around."</p> <p>Use props such as ribbons or pom poms to create different actions.</p> <p>Clap the syllables in words.</p> <p>Perform a group dance to an audience.</p> <p>Use vocabulary of instruction – 'follow', 'lead', 'copy'.</p>
Follow a recipe using fruit that you have grown.	<p>Mix powder paints.</p> <p>Follow the steps in making a chapati /flat bread with an adult.</p> <p>Children measure using scoops/spoons and containers.</p> <p>They learn to kneed/roll/flatten.</p> <p>Reflect on the cooking process.</p> <p>Use knives and hand blender to make fruit smoothies (with support).</p> <p>Plant seeds and bulbs and know how to care for them.</p> <p>To know about healthy living.</p> <p>Look at shopping lists/menus.</p> <p>Identify two written words with the same initial letter.</p>
Become a confident learner	<p>Encourage the children to think about how to carry out a task. What might happen if...?</p> <p>Use 'thinking language' involving words such as 'think', 'know', 'guess' and 'remember'.</p> <p>Sort objects according to one or more criteria.</p> <p>Take part in sequencing tasks.</p> <p>Understand that the beliefs of others may be different from their own.</p> <p>Begin to correct their mistakes themselves.</p> <p>Freezing melting activities.</p> <p>Colour mixing.</p> <p>Oral hygiene.</p> <p>Investigate Forces including magnets.</p>
Be part of a team to organise and participate in a Mini Olympics	<p>Match developing physical skills to tasks and activities e.g. decide whether to crawl, walk or run across a plank, depending on its length and width.</p> <p>Use talk to organise themselves and their play.</p> <p>Remember rules without an adult needing to remind them.</p> <p>Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 4.</p> <p>Number recognition to 5.</p> <p>Recording using marks/ numerals/symbols.</p> <p>Talk about feelings (themselves and others).</p>

These goals incorporate all areas of the EYFS curriculum, and the children will work at their own pace through the milestones to work towards or surpass the goals. If you have any questions, please do ask.

Clothing

Please may we remind you that at Nursery we can spend long periods outside, whatever the weather. The children need to have appropriate clothing and footwear. No Ugg style boots or open toed shoes or sandals please! Please ensure all clothing is labelled and clearly marked with your child's name. If you would like to send in a piece of fresh fruit and a bottle of water, please also label these items.

A gentle reminder for children who have packed lunch;

Please ensure that children do not bring nuts to school, this includes Nutella and bars containing nuts

Junk Modelling

We welcome empty cartons and packaging for modelling, but please do not bring in any packaging that has contained nut products. Nut allergies can be very severe and bring about a dangerous reaction.

Nursery Timings

A prompt start to the day is important so please arrive between 8.45 – 8.55 at the beginning of the morning session and 12.45 -12.55 for the beginning of the afternoon session. We would also remind you that children must be collected between 11.35 and 11.45 at the end of the morning session and between 3.20 - 3.45 at the end of the afternoon session to enable staff to plan and prepare for the next session. The gate will be closed promptly at these times. Please contact the school office if you will be unavoidably late.

Friday Money Box

We greatly appreciate your voluntary Friday contributions and use them to buy ingredients for play dough, cooking and resources to support topics and interests. This term's money will provide seeds for our growing topic.

Home Learning

The children are welcome to take home a story book to share with you. Please read daily with your child.

Google classroom

Log in details will be sent out soon for our new children.

Thank you to everyone who has joined in with google classroom, we love seeing what the children have been getting up to at home!

Most Fridays I will upload a weekly challenge letting you know what we have been doing in Nursery and offering you an activity to support this at home. (This is optional.)



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You may want to just talk to your child about what they have been doing or you may enjoy completing the task with them. You can record this in any way you like. The children love to show us the pictures that they have drawn.

This should be an enjoyable way of sharing learning experiences from outside of school with adults and friends in school.

You can also use the assignment to record visits, activities, special events and celebrations. You can upload children's illustrations, mark making, photos, tickets, invitations and writing (by you or your child). Or you may want to share with us something that your child has achieved or is proud of.

We love to hear about your child's activities at home to gain a broader picture of his/her learning and development.

Lastly, please leave all toys at home. The children can become upset if they get lost or another child wants to play with their toys.

If you have any concerns or worries at all, please feel free to speak to staff at a mutually convenient time. We look forward to an exciting and enjoyable term and will let you know of any events that may be organised as they occur. Many thanks for your continued support

Mrs Dawe, Tammy, Mrs Childs (AM), Mrs McCarthy (AM), Lisa (AM) Miss Kemp (PM)
The Nursery Team