



Curriculum Newsletter - 2nd half of Spring 2026



As we begin the second half of the Spring Term, our topic will be **'World of Animals'**. Here are some suggestions of ways to support and celebrate your child's learning at home

Personal & Social Skills

- Provide games and activities that involve taking turns and sharing.
- Encourage your child to seek help by explaining what they need, eg "Please can you tie my shoes", "Please, I need / I would like" and "Thank you for ..".
- Remind your child to flush the toilet and wash their hands.
- Continue to encourage your child to put on their own shoes, socks, coats and to do up buttons and zips unaided.
- Discuss things that make us and others happy, such as sharing, helping to tidy toys away etc, as well as things that make us sad, e.g not sharing, not waiting for your turn, etc. Encourage them to express their feelings – whatever they may be.

Language and Literacy Skills

- Sequence the events of your day together, i.e., "First we will have breakfast, then we will go to Nursery ... " etc.
- Prompt your child's thinking through play by asking questions such as, "What is that one for?", "Will they all fit in there?" or "What will happen next?"
- Re-enact rhymes and stories with talk and actions - and a few props! This will help your child predict and order coherently.
- Identify rhyme in stories, continue rhyming strings e.g cat-bat-hat.
- Share non-fiction animal books – naming animals and their young.
- Give your child the opportunity to write their own name, to write/type cards, postcards and perhaps even design and make their own cards. Please ensure they try to form letters correctly, using a capital letter at the start only.
- Look for letters and listen for sounds in stories you share.

Sing some animal themed rhymes and songs

- Old Macdonald had a farm (great for memory)

- Five little ducks went swimming one day (great for counting backwards)
- Baa Baa Black Sheep, Incy Wincy Spider (great for rhyme)

Mathematical Skills

- Play 'Snap' with cards, so your child can recognise similarities and orientation of shapes.
- Play dominoes to help your child recognise the patterns of dots.
- Match shoes to correct feet, arms to sleeves on coats and cardigans.
- Play simple board games where your child can count spots on a die and move on that many spaces – practise taking turns!
- Sort by similar characteristics – all the big plates, all the shirts with short sleeves, all the red clothes, etc.
- Group 3-4 toys in different ways so your child will begin to recognise the total is still the same (i.e 2 cars + 2 cars or 3 cars + 1 car – how many cars do we have altogether?)
- Continue to spot numbers all around, this is the best way to develop number recognition.
- Discuss height, (taller, shorter objects), length (longer, shorter objects)

Physical Skills

- Play 'catch' together with a large soft ball. As your child improves, try a smaller soft ball. Use a wide racquet to roll the ball around obstacles on the floor or to each other.
- Use a piece of tin foil – change it from a 2D shape into a 3D shape – make it into a ball to throw and catch.
- Play 'Musical Statues' to help your child develop the control necessary to hold a fixed position or shape.
- Dance spontaneously together to build confidence, enjoy movement, express feelings and notice effects of activity on their body – increased heart rate, feeling warm, rapid breathing, etc.

Literacy Development

We will be: -

- Retelling, sequencing stories – discussing characters, plots and favourite stories
- Predicting events and changing story endings
- Joining in with and creating rhyming strings
- Creating stories and poems together
- Listening for rhyming words in songs and stories
- Matching sounds and letters and learning how to write them correctly
- Starting to blend simple CVC words together

Understanding the World

We will be:-

- Looking in detail at the weather and seasonal changes, signs of Spring
- Simple map work around a farm/safari park, linked to our stories
- Looking at differences between animals
- Understanding and exploring 'camouflage'
- Exploring the school environment further
- Learning how Christians prepare for and celebrate Easter.
- Learning about the importance of Ramadan for Muslims and then how they celebrate at Eid

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be: -

- Role playing - in the home, on the farm, at the vets, on safari
- Retelling stories through painting
- Natural texture rubbings, patterns and pictures
- Adapting nursery rhymes - making up our own songs
- Still life drawings and paintings of plants/flowers/animals
- Designing and making farm buildings and animal enclosures

Physical Development

We will be: -

- Using the large PE apparatus
- Outdoor games – hopscotch, skipping, basketball and other playground games
- Learning songs linked to animals around the world and their movements
- Developing an awareness of safety when transporting equipment
- Constructing using large and small equipment
- Understanding which foods are good for us and keep us healthy

What we will be doing in Nursery this half term..



Dates for your diary:

- **Thursday 5th March** World Book Day – more information to follow
- **Monday 9th March** Small Animal Experience
- **Friday 13th March** Celebration of Mothers' and Special People - 2 members of each child's family invited to Nursery at 11.15am
- **Monday 23rd March** Visit to St Micheal's Chapel with Reception
- **Friday 27th March** Easter Bonnets

Some of books we will be sharing

Dear Zoo
Monkey Puzzle
Lost & Found
I am a Vet
What the Ladybird Heard

Mathematical Development

We will be: -

- Estimating and subitising amounts of objects
- Calculating, comparing and adding objects
- Recognising and writing numerals
- Counting one more than... using objects
- Sequencing days of the week
- Ordering familiar events
- Using sand timers to help us to understand about length of time
- Naming 2D shapes and their properties
- Recognising and creating repeat patterns

Personal and Social Development

We will be: -

- Continuing to come into Nursery independently
- Recognising feelings of sadness, happiness or anger and how to help ourselves
- Understanding how to stay safe online, when out and about and in the home
- Understanding when things are fair or unfair and knowing some ways we can make things fair
- Understanding how we have changed and how these changes make us feel
- Thinking about how we show love for our family