



April 2022

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a relaxing spring holiday and your child is looking forward to their final term in the Nursery class.

New Topics

As in the previous terms, each week the Nursery team will plan activities linked to a specific text that fits in with an overarching theme for the term. The activities will promote learning in the seven areas of the EYFS curriculum.

This term the topics and texts will be:

- **'Seasons and Change'**
The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
Information books linked to seasons
- **'Splash!' – thinking about water and how we use it.**
Mrs Wishy Washy by Joy Cowley
Mr Gumpy's Outing by John Burningham
The Bog Baby by Jeanne Willis
Hooray for Fish by Lucy Cousins
Sharing a Shell by Julia Donaldson
Information books about boats and the seaside
Stories, rhymes and songs about pirates

We will also be enhancing our learning with a visit to the London Zoo in June.

Through the texts, we will be developing the children's communication skills by building new vocabulary and supporting a range of language skills such as how to sequence events by retelling stories. You can support your child at home by engaging them every day with picture storybooks or information books to fire their imagination and interest. Enjoying and sharing books leads children to see them as a source of pleasure and interest and will motivate them to value reading as they approach their reception year.

Some specific aspects of teaching this term:

Phonics

This term our phonics sessions will focus on how to articulate letter sounds and how to hear and say the initial sounds in words. The children will also begin to **orally** blend and segment sounds in simple words e.g. working out and **saying** the c-a-t in cat. You can help your child at home by:

- Playing sound related games like 'I spy'
- Talking about sounds in words, (My name begins with J –J –J, how about yours?)
- Pointing out different objects that start with the same sound

We will also continue to support the children to recognize their own names and those of their friends.

Maths

There will be an increased focus on maths this term. We will be reinforcing the children's careful counting skills, their ability to recognize numbers, match quantities to a number and notice how amounts change when you add or take away objects in real life situations. At nursery we develop these skills through play and you can support your child at home in the same way by talking about numbers and modelling skills e.g. 'Oh look- 1,2,3 cars – here comes one more, now there are 4!'

We will also be modelling language relating to space, shape and measure e.g. 'longest', 'bigger', 'smaller', 'the same as', 'heavy'. Again, your modelling skills with language use in real life situations will be hugely beneficial e.g., "Look, my piece of spaghetti is much longer than yours!"

Physical Development

We will be supporting the children to develop their gross motor skills such as hopping, skipping, jumping, climbing, throwing and catching. We will also continue to support the children to move towards developing an effective 'tripod' grip for writing and encourage them to have a go at writing their own name along with trying new letter shapes as and when they are ready.

Summer Weather

We use the outdoor area in all weathers. With the summer coming please be mindful of sending your child to school dressed appropriately with adequate protection from the sun and with footwear that will still enable them to safely access the curriculum and participate in physical activities. Shoes with a closed toe are much safer for school, 'flip-flop' shoes or 'croc's' are unsuitable. If it becomes hot, please send your child to school wearing sunscreen and provide a named sunhat. A waterproof coat should still be provided in case of rain.

Please continue to provide a spare change of clothes to hang on your child's peg with increased amounts of water play in the summer months there is greater chance of them getting a bit wet during their learning. **We only have a limited amount of Nursery clothing – please wash and return any of our clothes as soon as possible to ensure that we do not run out.**

Parental Involvement

We are always keen for parents to come in and share their skills and experiences. Perhaps you would like to read a story to the class (this can be in your home language), talk to the children about an interesting job or activity that you do or share a skill. Do speak to a member of the team if you can help.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to us. We look forward to working with you and your child over the coming term,

Kind regards, The Nursery Team