

Welcome back to all children continuing their journey through Nursery and a big hello to all the new children starting.

We hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas making a lot of magical memories.

The themes this term are 'Help is at hand' and 'Animal Crackers'.

We will be using high quality texts to engage and inspire learning across all areas of our curriculum.



Communication and Language

Through all the areas of the curriculum, children will develop their speaking, listening and attention and understanding skills. Language development is very important as it is the basis for all learning.

Children will be encouraged to develop and expand their language skills when playing and during structured games.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term is about developing stronger and developing a sense of belonging in their environment. There will be an emphasis on turn taking and sharing, through participating in a variety of activities. The children need to be able to express and control their emotions, to develop respect and consideration for other people's needs. We will continue to work on your child's ability to look after themselves and becoming more independent. i.e. going to the toilet, putting on coats etc.



Physical Development

Children receive taught sessions of PE each week and have daily access to our outdoor environment, allowing their gross motor skills to be refined. The children will also develop their fine motor skills by taking part in lots of different activities such as construction toys, jigsaws, threading and use of small tools e.g. scissors. Children need to be able to manipulate and control small items to enable them to use a pencil and therefore make shapes and later, letters and numbers.



Literacy

Children have opportunities to enjoy books in the book corner, listen to stories, and participate in stories and rhymes. Phonics will be introduced that includes listening to and describing sounds and noises around us, developing an awareness of syllables in words, identifying rhyme and letter recognition. We will also be encouraging the children to recognise and write some letters from their name and the initial sounds in words.



Mathematics

Numbers and shapes are all around us, and the children are encouraged to notice numbers and shapes and find out how we use them in everyday situations. Through play the children will have lots of opportunities to become super mathematicians by using their critical thinking skills through games, such as sorting and matching, counting quantities and recognising numerals and extending mathematical language.



Understanding the World

Through all areas of the curriculum children will develop their knowledge of People and Communities, Past and Present World and the Natural World. Children will be encouraged to explore each area in nursery, including our outside area. Autumnal weather and the celebrations of Diwali and Christmas will also be a part of our focus.



Expressive Arts and Design

Through all areas of the curriculum children will develop their skills by exploring and using different media and materials to create something new and by expressing themselves imaginatively. Children will have the opportunity to use and explore a variety of tools and materials aimed at extending sensory experiences and developing self-expression, techniques and skills. We encourage the exploration of sound through playing musical instruments. The role play and dressing up areas encourage children to play imaginatively.

