

Important Information

Forest School

This takes place every Monday and Thursday. On this day please ensure your child wears a full sleeve top and trousers and clothing that is suitable for the weather. Multiple layers in cold weather is important. We will provide waterproof layers for them but if you could provide wellington boots and extra socks, that would be helpful. We provide wellington boots if you do not have any at home. The children will be walking to Forest School in West Ham Park so it is important they are no longer using a pushchair outside of school in order to build up their stamina/physical skills. No longer using a pushchair will also help develop your child's confidence, independence and listening and attention to be safe when crossing the road.

Being ready for any weather

As a Nursery we have a strong focus on learning outside in all weathers. Please ensure your child wears clothes appropriate for the season as we will make regular visits out of the Nursery. 'There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing.'

Toilet Training

It is wonderful to see so many of the children now using the toilet independently. If your child is still wearing pull ups/nappies, please speak to your child's key person so you can work together to master your child using the toilet independently. If your child is still using toilet training bottoms, nappy pants are best for them to come to nursery as they allow them to have a go at using the toilet more independently.

School Bag

As your child grows in independence, please ensure they have an extra set of clothes in their bag. This will include shoes, socks, underwear, vests, bottoms and a top. We encourage the children to have a go at changing themselves if they have got wet outside or during water play activities, an adult will support your child in becoming more independent with this. Please encourage your child to help themselves with getting dressed at home. It is important that they are building their gross motor skills in dressing as this will support them in building all of their muscle groups they will need to be independent learners as they get older.

Online Learning

Please use the 'Tapestry' app to take photos or share videos of your child's interests. We would love to hear about significant events, for example learning to ride a bike, travelling on a new bus or learning a new skill and independently trying a task.

If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's Key Worker, Ms Ravi/Ms Rice the Class Teachers or Ms Cook, the Head for Lower School.

Thank you for your continued support.

Nursery Curriculum Overview



Autumn Term 2023

This term, Nursery children will be focusing on Next Steps that support them in settling into their new learning environment and developing new relationships with the children and adults around them.

Following the Early Years Framework, we focus on new next steps each month with the children as a group, in addition to the children being given individual next steps for learning. We will display the new next steps each term on our notice board in the foyer.

The next steps cover the following areas:

- Physical Development (Health & Self Care and Moving & Handling)
- Personal, Social and Emotional (Managing Feelings & Behaviour, Making Relationships and Self-Confidence & Self-Awareness)
- Communication and Language (Speaking, Understanding and Attention)

We will be using the following activities and routines to help the children to develop their next steps for this term:

- Home visits help your child(ren) to make a relationship with their key adults. As well, they give an opportunity for the key adults to learn all relevant information to support us in helping your child settle into our setting.
- During free play, adults will be concentrating on encouraging children to recognise rules for being together and with others, such as waiting for a turn and sharing the resources.
- Involvement in engaging activities which are aligned with children's interests will ensure that children have opportunities to join in.
- As well as free play, we will have a Nursery routine which will include short 5-10 minute carpet sessions such as songs, stories and snack times. This will encourage children to also develop skills in focusing and becoming used to learning routines.
- This month, carpet sessions will include; stories, songs and games involving feelings such as happy, cross and sad.

Literacy

We will be reading the story *Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes*, this links well to talking about ourselves. We will also look at texts which encourage the development of key language, rhyme and repetitive phrases such as *We are Going on a Bear Hunt*.

The children will be given a range of media and materials to make marks in different ways and be encouraged to talk about their marks. This may include; paint, crayons, chalk, pens on a big and small scale, both inside and out. We will also be introducing the literacy tool called *Tales Toolkit*. This supports children to develop a story narrative where they look at the setting, characters, problem and solution. It builds on their oracy skills which are important foundations for literacy.

Mathematics

We will be learning colours and shapes through free play and short carpet sessions which will also allow children to begin to become involved in playing games and activities with their peers.

There will be lots of opportunity to use number language in play and through songs and rhymes. We use number language throughout the day so children are hearing numbers being used for a purpose, e.g. when lining up, counting snacks, putting bikes away etc. We support the idea that children learn best through practical hands-on maths problems that are purposeful and meaningful for the child, allowing them to learn in a concrete way.

Ideas for supporting your child at home

As we are encouraging children to become independent with their self help and self care, please encourage your children to place their own bags and coats onto their pegs, use the toilet independently at home and allow them to walk to and from nursery. Play turn taking games to help them with their peers at nursery so they know how to share resources and wait for their turn.

Visit the library and choose stories with your child. Read stories to your child at home to encourage a love for reading. Children who enjoy listening to stories will have a greater motivation for wanting to read themselves and will also have a wider range of vocabulary. If English is not your first language, read stories in the language you are most confident with. Talk about the pictures, what is happening and encourage your child to join in.

Sing number songs with your child, look out for numbers when you are out and about, use language to help them understand different times of day e.g. nighttime, morning, afternoon etc. Use language of size with your child when you are doing everyday activities, such as tall, tallest, short and shortest.