

Important Information

Forest School

Forest School continues every Monday and Thursday with Mrs Nott and either Mrs Rios or Mrs Ravi. This term the children will be looking at the changing season as we move from winter to spring. We are encouraging children to become more independent in their self care skills and thinking about safety. Please encourage your child to be independent in dressing themselves at home and begin conversations around road safety and being safe at the park. Our safety phrases at Forest School are:

'No pick, no lick' - We do not pick living plants and we do not put objects we find into our mouths

'No talking to strangers' - If we see someone we do not know we do not talk to them unless our key adult has introduced them to us.

'No touching sharp objects' - If we see a sharp object we must tell our key adult straight away.

All of these rules help our children to stay safe when exploring at forest school.

Physical Skills Day

This term the children will continue their physical skills day every Friday. On this day the children have access to the main school Multi Use Game Area where they can use large chalks, bikes, benches, hoops and ropes to navigate their developing physical skills. They also have access to the Early Years garden and hall. They will be able to use the garden where there is a large play-house, a slide for climbing and a large mud kitchen where they can develop their small motor skills. They will also be able to use the hall to use the large apparatus for climbing, balancing and to learn how to take their shoes and socks off. In using the hall, they will be learning how to safely walk upstairs together.

Home Learning and Tapestry

In Nursery we use Tapestry to encourage continued learning at home, linked to the learning within our setting. Mrs Ravi and Ms Rios in Nursery will share observations of your children's interests and developing skills using the Tapestry Journal. These observations may include a Next Step for learning or an activity which you can encourage your child to engage with at home. We encourage you to share any specific learning experiences and family events with us on Tapestry so that the children can use the visuals and talk about this with their Key Adults within the setting.

We also ask that you read books with your child daily to encourage a love of reading and storytelling at home. We will be inviting you to 'sharing our learning sessions' with your child for this term and you will be encouraged to borrow books from our reading corner to share with your child at home.

If you require any further information, please speak to your child's Key Person, Mrs Ravi our Nursery teacher or Ms Cook our Head of Lower School.

Nursery Curriculum Overview



Spring Term 2024

Personal Social and Emotional Development

As the children develop secure attachments with their Key People in Nursery, they will be able to work together to develop individual strategies in managing feelings and negotiating social and emotional conflicts.

● Children will be learning to:

- - Grow in independence, rejecting help ("me do it"). Sometimes this leads to feelings of frustration and tantrums
- - Begin to show 'effortful control'. For example, waiting for a turn and resisting the strong impulse to grab what they want or push their way to the front
- - Play with one or more children, extending and elaborating play ideas
- - Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of a community
- - Find solutions to conflicts and rivalries. For example, accepting that not everyone can be Spider-Man in the game, and suggesting other ideas
- - Understand gradually how others might be feeling

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Talk about feelings sensitively when your child is expressing them, offering some suggestions to manage e.g., 'I can see you are angry, when I am angry I have a rest and feel better after'.
- Ensure your child has a clear routine for the day so they are aware of what is expected of them.

Communication and Language

Through purposeful play and exploration of books, small worlds and various environments across the setting, adults will support children in encouraging language rich conversations.

Children will be learning to:

- Listen to longer stories and remember much of what happens
- Use a wide range of vocabulary
- Understand a question or instruction that has two parts such as: "Get your coat and wait by the door."
- Understand 'Why' questions "Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?"
- Sing a large repertoire of songs
- Know many rhymes and be able to talk about familiar books
- Use longer sentences of four to six words
- Start a conversation with an adult or a friend and continue it for many turns
- Use talk to organise themselves and their play: "Let's go on a bus... you sit there... I'll be the driver."

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Use small world and role play to pretend to be different characters at home eg, a bus driver, a shop assistant, a doctor etc
- Read books of your child's interest, pointing out specific vocabulary which your child needs to build on

Understanding the World and Expressive Art and Design

Through outdoor exploration, discussions on family and local community and pretend playing various community roles, creative activities and exploration, songs, rhymes and dances

Children will be learning to:

- Make connections between the features of their family and other families
- Explore and respond to different natural phenomena
- Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties
- Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary
- Plant seeds and care for growing plants
- Express ideas and feelings through making marks
- Make rhythmical and repetitive sounds
- Explore a range of sound makers and instruments
- Join different materials and explore different textures
- Explore colour and colour mixing
- Begin to develop complex stories using small world toys
- Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Read books related to nature and the changes in seasons
- Look at your child's observations on Tapestry and discuss what they are making, designing or finding out about

Physical Development

This term Nursery Key People will be focusing on providing opportunities for children to learn to:

- Kick, throw and catch balls
- Start eating independently and learning how to use some cutlery
- Use large and small motor skills to do things independently, for example manage buttons and zips, and pour drinks
- Spin, roll and independently use ropes and swings
- Go up steps and stairs, or climb using alternate feet
- Use large-muscle movements to paint and make marks
- Collaborate with others to manage large items, such as moving a long plank safely
- Show a preference for a dominant hand

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Spend some time at home, in the garden or at the park to catch and throw using a ball or bean bag
- Provide opportunities for mark making at home with paints, crayons, pencils, pens, chalk etc
- Provide opportunity for climbing and balance skills by going on walks to the park, using a bike or scooter
- Encourage your child to dress themselves each day, having a try at doing their zips and buttons

Literacy

Children will be learning to:

- Sing songs and say rhymes independently
- Enjoy sharing books with an adult
- Recognise or begin to recognise their name such as on their coat peg
- Notice some print, such as the first letter of their name, a bus or door number, or a familiar logo
- Begin to develop their phonological awareness, so that they can:
 - recall some sounds that link to our phonics song

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Continue to read daily with your child and foster a love of books
- Talk lots! Children need to speak in clear sentences before they can develop their specific literacy skills
- Take your child to the local library, it is full of a range of exciting books and is a great place to see what your child enjoys reading.

Mathematics

Through play based maths activities and small group time sessions with their key adults,

children will be learning to:

- Build with a range of resources
- Compare **sizes** using gesture and language
- **Recite** numbers up to 5
- Develop fast recognition of up to 4 objects: **subitising**
- Show finger numbers up to 3
- Experiment with **symbols** and marks

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Use number in building and play activities at home, counting amounts, pointing out numbers and shape in your environment