

Nursery Curriculum Newsletter Spring 1 (2024)

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the start of a brand new term at Orchard! We hope that everyone had a restful winter break.

On the reverse page of this newsletter, you will find lots of information about what your child will learn this half term. Should you have any concerns or wish to discuss your child's progress, please feel free to speak to any of the team. We are available to talk after school on most days.

We look forward to working with you and your child.

Best wishes,

The Nursery Team

Dates for your diary

Key dates including class assemblies, enrichment days / events and coffee mornings can be found on our school website calendar or on our parent dates letter sent out at the beginning of every half term.

Trips or workshops take place each half term and are planned to support the half-termly learning. A separate letter is sent to inform you of details for upcoming class trips. These are also added to the school's website calendar.

PE

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school on their timetabled PE days. It is advised that your child keeps their kit in school throughout the week in case of any timetable changes. Children must have a full PE kit (a white t-shirt, black shorts / jogging bottoms, and plimsolls) to ensure personal hygiene and safety.

PE Days:

- Robin Class (AM and full time) - Tuesday
- Robin Class (PM and full time) - Thursday

Homework

Your child will bring home two reading books every week. One will be their phonics reading book and the other will be their banded reading book. Please read with your child for 10 minutes every night and write a comment in their home school diary.

Spare Clothes

We ask that all children come to school in pants (no nappies or pull-ups please). A set of spare clothes can be brought in and left on your child's peg in case of any accidents. Please can all clothes be labelled.



Communication and Language

We will be learning to:

- Pay attention to more than one thing at a time, which can be difficult.
- Understand 'why' questions, like: "Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?"
- Sing a large repertoire of songs.



Literacy

We will be learning to:

- Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.
- Use some of our print and letter knowledge in our early writing. For example: writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of the page; writing 'm' for mummy.



Mathematics

We will be learning to:

- Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity.
- Link numerals and amounts. For example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.
- Talk about and identify the patterns around us. For example, stripes on clothes and designs on rugs and wallpaper.

Our topic this half term is Let's Work



Physical Development

We will be learning to:

- Develop our movement, balancing, riding (scooters, trikes and bikes) and ball skills.
- Use large-muscle movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks.
- Skip, hop, stand on one leg and hold a pose for a game like musical statues.
- Start taking part in some group activities which we make up for ourselves, or in teams.
- Match our developing physical skills to tasks and activities in the setting. For example, deciding whether to crawl, walk or run across a plank, depending on its length and width.



Understanding the World

We will be learning to:

- Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.
- Show interest in different occupations.
- Plant seeds and care for growing plants.
- Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.



Expressive Art and Design

We will be learning to:

- Develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and doll houses etc.
- Develop our own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them.
- Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be learning to:

- Develop our sense of responsibility and membership in a community.
- Become more outgoing with unfamiliar people, in the safe context of our setting.
- Play with one or more other children, extending and elaborating play ideas.