

Acorns Newsletter

Spring Term Two 2021

We were so very lucky last half-term with the weather as our topic of Exploring the Cold meant we were able to experience first-hand lots of cold, wintering and icy weather. This term's topic is Growing, and here's hoping that the weather gets a little warmer so that we can start to see green leaves on trees and flowers bloom, as we get outside to do a little planting ourselves. We've got some exciting things this half term, from live eggs that we'll be hatching in class, to learning all about farms. It's going to be jam packed full of learning experiences. Please remember you can see your child's Learning Journey on Tapestry, and if you haven't activated your account yet, please do get in touch.

Mrs Gibson



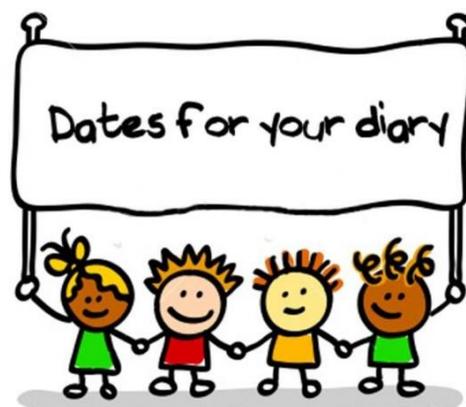
Forest School

From Monday 8th March, we will be starting up our Forest School sessions again now that the weather is getting a little milder.

For all children who attend a **Monday morning session**, please ensure that you bring with you a bag containing:

- **A pair of warm trousers**
- **A warm jumper**
- **Some warm socks**

Could we also ask for any borrowed Nursery clothes to be returned.



St David's Day 1st March

World Book Day 4th March

St Patrick's Day 15th March

Living Eggs 15th March

Comic Relief 19th March

World Water Day 22nd March

Easter 29th March

Nursery Closes 1st April



Well done to Jaxx, Reggie, Noah, Leo, Asil and Oliwia who received our Star of the Week last half term.

Our Learning Journey So Far



Nursery is one big learning journey, and we're keen to encourage children's learning through following their own interests. Here are some of the things we got up to last half term, and how this supported your child's learning.

The children learned a great deal about Chinese New Year. We sang the song 'Kung Hai Fat Choi', made some Chinese letters in the sand and built a huge Chinese New Year dragon. The children heard the story behind Chinese New Year, and explored traditional colours from Chinese celebrations.



It's important for children in Nursery to experience all weathers, and the snow and ice that came last half term certainly didn't stop us. We explored colour mixing on ice, we looked at freezing and melting water, built snowmen and snow castles, and used the construction tools to clear paths. We found and followed tracks in the snow and we learned about animals who live in the colder climates.



The children spent a great deal of time last half term focusing on developing their fine motor skills through a variety of activities in class. We:

- Put up a peg number line in our games area, where the children practised using the pegs to put up the numbers.
- Added some matchsticks, lollipop sticks, buttons and pebbles to our playdough area, to encourage the children to manipulate the dough to make playdough models.
- Supported the children in building an igloo using scissors, paper and Sellotape. Using scissors to cut the paper and pulling the Sellotape of the dispenser was a great way to develop the children's fine motor skills.

What's Coming Up this Half Term?

Take a look below at some of the brilliant activities this half term.

Who's on the farm? We'll be learning all about farms, which animals you might find on a farm and the noises they make, as well as transport and people who live there.

Chick, chick, chick, chick, chicken!
We are taking part in a living eggs experience which means that we will have some eggs under a lamp in the Nursery that we will watch hatch in to chicks. We will get to keep and care for the chicks for a few days, before returning them.

As Spring approaches, we'll be looking at what flowers and plants we might see around us. We'll be talking about the changes of the landscape at Forest School and how we grow things.

We're learning all about life cycles this half term. From frogs to butterflies, how do these animals grow and change?

LITERACY

The books that we will be exploring this half-term are:

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar
- Snore
- The Caterpillar's Wish
- Farmer Duck
- Who's on the Farm?
- The Very Greedy Bee

Mathematics

This half term we're focusing on shape and how we can use shape to make arrangements, pictures and to build with. We'll also be looking at shapes in the environment. What shapes can you see at home? We're continuing to develop our number skills and have lots of counting books to explore this term such as 5 Little Ducks and Ten Tiny Seeds.

Phonics

Some of the children are starting to hear initial sounds in words, whilst others are continuing to develop their listening and attention skills through body percussion, music sessions and rhythm and rhyme time.

You can find lots of Phase One Phonics videos on YouTube that you can take part in at home.

HOME LEARNING

Each week we send out a link to our Sway page which is an interactive page for you to access videos, stories and activity ideas to support you with your child's learning at home. We will keep you up to date with what we've been up to in class, as well as let you know what we'll be learning each week. Don't forget to have a look!