Nursery Autumn 1 Newsletter 2026

Class Teacher: Mrs Heather Forster STA: Miss Charlotte Barnard STA: Miss Larysa Preston (mornings)

02/09/26 – 02/10/26 – Settling In, Baseline Assessment and 'All About Me!'
05/10/26 – 23/10/26 – Bears

Phonics and Reading

As part of our Early Phonics Programme the children will sing nursery rhymes daily, learning to join in with the words and actions. Over the following weeks we will introduce the children to the Little Wandle scheme which we use throughout the school. We will focus on one rhyme for 2 weeks, taking part in fun activities daily in small groups. These rhymes will be Miss Polly had a Dolly, Humpty Dumpty and Round & round the Garden, during the last 2 weeks of this half term we will introduce our first sounds, s and a.

We will read many books this half term, encouraging the children to join in with repetitive phrases and to discuss what they liked about the stories. As part of our topic we will have focus texts during the half term, these include Hello Friend, Brown Bear Brown Bear what do you see?, Goldilocks and the 3 bears, We're going on a Bear Hunt, Gruff the Grump, The Teddy Bears Picnic and Peace at Last.

Physical Development

In class we will be focusing on health and hygiene routines, learning to use the toilet independently and remembering to wash our hands. We will also be introducing tooth brushing as a class during our morning sessions.

When the children are exploring the outdoor areas and soft play equipment they will have plenty of opportunities to develop their gross motor skills through digging, carrying, lifting, pushing/pulling. The children will also develop these skills and their coordination by using the balance bikes and scooters.

The children will also be using their physical skills to put on and take off their own coats, suits and wellies.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

This term we will be getting to know the routines and rules within the classroom and also getting to know our friends and teachers. We will be having lots of class discussions to encourage talking, confidence and building friendships. The children will be encouraged to select and use resources independently, learning to use the choosing boards in class.

There are many well resourced and carefully planned areas inside and outside in the Nursery classroom, which support all areas of the children's development.

During the later part of this half term we will begin our toothbrushing in class.

Home Learning

Starting this half term the children will be bringing home a new story book to share at home. Please encourage your children to do lots of talking, wondering and questioning.

Look at the pictures in the story books with your children and ask them what they can see. Can they guess what will happen next? What is a certain character wearing? Where are they going? What colour is that? Who is your favourite character? Is it a happy ending? Did they enjoy the story?

During the last 2 weeks of half term we will be starting our early phonics programme, the children will be coming home with the sound of the week sheets for you to practise with them.

Communication & Language

Throughout each of the topics this term there will be endless opportunities to develop the children's communication and language skills. The children will hear stories. Take part in discussions and be encouraged to share their thoughts and feelings. The children will be exposed to a language rich conversational environment where they are able to share their thoughts and ideas through role play activities and child/ adult lead activities.

We will be starting our Little Wandle early phonics programme with focus rhymes and sounds. Children will develop an extensive range of vocabulary and a good understanding of new terminology and will perform rhymes and poems, which will encourage appropriate use of intonation, pitch and rhythm.

Ways to help at home

Encourage your children to be independent with their coats and shoes, it makes them feel so much better when they can do things for themselves. Look at Tapestry frequently to see what they children have been doing in school and talk to them about their learning and encourage them to apply it at home too.

Share the story books with your child each week.

Practise the phonics flash cards with your child as much as possible and upload to tapestry so we can share their amazing work with the class.

Topic

Settling in, All About Me and Bears

The children will have the opportunity to settle in, learn daily routines, the class and school rules and het to know their friends and teachers.

The children will learn about different types of families, explore their features, learn about what makes us different/ the same as our friends and begin to understand the different types of families. The children will be encouraged to share photos of their families using tapestry and be proud to talk about themselves and their families.

During our final topic this half term the children will hear a range of stories featuring bears, learn key events of a shared story and begin to understand how stories begin and end. We will use these books to plan activities such as colour hunts, a teddy bears picnic, bear hunt around the school and many more exciting activities connected to our chosen stories.

Other Information

25th September – Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning
28th September – School Photos
7th October – Reading Meeting for Nursery Parents @ 8.40am and 2.45pm
W/B 12th October – Nursery Teddy Bear's Picnic
20th October – Autumn Walk
23rd October – School closes at 3.10pm for half term

If you have any questions or queries at all please see me at home time, drop me an email or ring school and I'll get back to you. ☺

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