

Monday 15th April 2024.

Dear Nursery parents/carers,

Nursery Curriculum Letter – Summer (1st half)

I can't quite believe that the summer term is upon us! This year of Nursery is really flying by. All of the children have made such fantastic progress and will only continue to do so in these upcoming weeks. The summer term brings with it nicer weather (we hope), lots of opportunities for outdoor learning, new experiences such as Sports day and taking on more responsibility as they become class helpers.

Our Core Values

Happiness: We spread joy to those around us.

Compassion: We care and are kind to all.

Respect: We treat others as we like to be treated.

Teamwork: We work well with everyone.

Nursery Staffing

Nursery Manager: Mrs Halligan

Nursery Learning Support Assistants: Mrs Harrison and Miss Kelly.

Communication

You can email Mrs Halligan directly on the Nursery email account and she will do her best to get back to you within a couple of working days.

acornclass@harefieldinfant.com

Reading

This term we will be starting the Read, Write, Inc phonics scheme with the children who are going up to Reception in September. Your child will be learning the sounds each individual letter makes, special rhymes and pictures that go with each letter, how to write the letter and how to use the sound to make words and begin to read.

Please see the information in phonics section of this letter so that you can support your child in their learning at home.

Those children who are returning to Nursery next September will be continuing in their reading journey by enjoying new stories and story language, joining in with repeated parts of the story, making predictions about what might happen and learning the names of different parts of a book.

Library (story) books will continue to come home every Wednesday. These can be changed on a Wednesday providing the previous book is returned. This will be a book for you to read and enjoy with your child. We recommend that you read to your child every day and encourage them to look at books independently.

Summer Term Learning

This term we will be learning the following in each subject area.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term's Jigsaw topic is 'Relationships'. The children will be learning about families and friendships and what differences and similarities we have. We will be exploring families and homes from all over the world and comparing how they live and their day to day routines with ours. Your child will be encouraged to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people.



Communication and Language

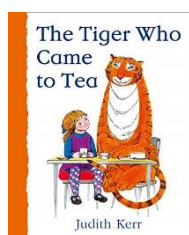
'One of the most powerful things we can do to help a child's development is help them to become a better communicator. Communication underpins children's thinking and learning. Being a good communicator enables you to make friends and play with others.' (Julian Grenier)

This term we are focusing on the ability to be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend using words as well as actions. We will be supporting this skill by introducing philosophical thinking to your child. They will be encouraged to make their own choices and be able to talk about why they made this choice e.g. Would you rather have dinner with a witch or go to the park with a ghost? Why? Your child will be praised for making their own choices and being able to talk about why they made that choice as well as respecting others who don't think the same as them.

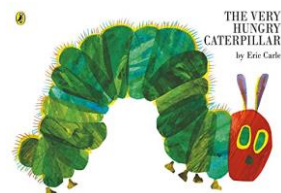
English

English runs hand in hand with Communication and Language, with all our work being carried out through the use of stories.

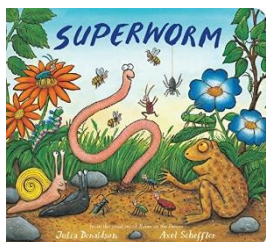
Our Key Text for this term are:



'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' is always a firm favourite in Nursery. This story is about a Tiger who knocks on the door of Sophie's house and asks to come in as he is hungry. Sophie and her mum offer him some tea but he goes on to eat all of the food in the house and to drink all of the drinks leaving nothing for Sophie and her mum and dad.



'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' explores the lifecycle of a caterpillar as well as food, growth and change. It tells the story of a tiny egg that hatches into a caterpillar who eats and eats and eats until he is a big fat caterpillar and finally a beautiful butterfly. We will support this learning by watching our very own caterpillars turn into butterflies at Nursery.



'Superworm is super long, superworm is super strong!'

Superworm is a fun story about a worm who helps all of his friends when they are in need. One day he is captured by the evil wizard lizard, luckily his friends make a plan and come to save him. This story truly goes with the childrens current interests as they love to hunt for worms in the nursery garden.



'Jaspers Beanstalk' is a story about a cat named Jasper who plants a bean in the ground on Monday and takes care of it every day of the week. By Sunday he is impatient and digs he bean up to see why it hasn't grown yet. Jasper learns that he must be patient and in the end his bean grows into a very tall beanstalk but what could be at the top? We will support this learning by planting our very own beans and observing them as they grow into beanstalks.

Physical Development

There will be many opportunities for your child to develop their physical development in a range of different ways this term.

We will be visiting the school hall for PE lessons where we will be learning to use different apparatus safely and move our bodies in a range of ways.

We will be learning to write all of the new letters and sounds from our daily Read, Write, Inc lessons.

We have sports day at the end of the month and will be practising for all of our races including the egg and spoon race, the sack race and balancing a bean bag on our heads!

Phonics



We are very excited to start daily phonics with your child at nursery. Please watch these informational videos to see how your child will be learning phonics and also how you can continue to support this learning at home.

What is Read Write Inc. Phonics

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qnQPtHxV/IJacchVj>

Understanding Phonics

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/H5DDTbpb/Dafj2y7Z>

How to say letter sounds

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7J821tAL/7W3XeSgk>

Mathematics

We continue to teach the children maths every day through short carpet sessions and then lots of activities that are set up inside and outside for the children to practice developing what we have taught through their play.

This term we are consolidating our knowledge of numbers 0-8 and starting to build on 9&10. We will be supporting this by making collections of 9 and 10 objects. Singing and counting '10 green bottles'. Continuing to explore repeating patterns using colours and 2d shapes e.g. square, circle, square, circle, square, circle or red, green, red, green, red, green. We will be learning spatial awareness and the language that goes alongside it, 'The car is under the table' or 'The tiny egg was on the leaf'.

We will go on number hunts and shape hunts in the garden and use natural materials to make numbers, shapes and repeated patterns.

Look for numbers everywhere you go and point them out to your child, on a bus, your front door at the shops etc. This will help them to begin to recognise numbers.

Number Blocks on BBC is a great programme to support your children understanding of number.

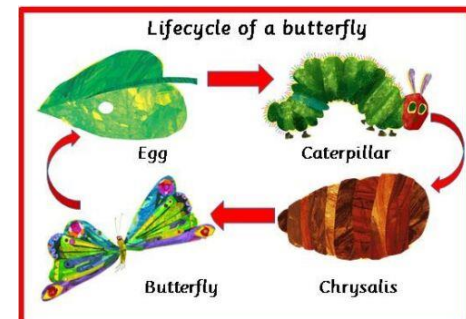


<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks>

Understanding the World

This half term Understanding of the World will be taught alongside many different areas of the curriculum. We will be exploring the lifecycle of butterfly as we read 'The very Hungry Caterpillar' and watch our own caterpillars transform into butterflies. We will be learning all about families from around the world in our PSHE lessons with Jigsaw Jenie. We will be exploring growth and change as we plant beans and grow our very own beanstalks just like Jasper in 'Jaspers Beanstalk'.

The children will begin to learn the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.



Expressive Arts and Design

Expressive Arts and Design is always such a fun area of the curriculum and underpins all of the children's learning through imaginative play, creativity, music and movement. The children are all becoming much more independent and confident in their skills when it comes to drawing, making models, re-enacting life experiences and joining in with singing and dancing activities.

This term we have a shop in our role play area where the children can take on the role of shopkeepers and customers. They will learn to count and handle money as well as follow a shopping list and communicate clearly with one another. The outside role-play/construction area will become a garage where they can build and fix vehicles working collaboratively as a team. Our small world areas always reflect the story we are focusing on and encourage the children to act out the story using available props and resources.

Your child will be making many wonderful creations including collaging a giant tiger, butterfly paintings, drawing giant beanstalks and making a map of the village using photographs and drawings.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email on the class email account.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Halligan
Nursery Manager

