

WC: 16.04.18 – Welcome back!

Our first week back will consist of us getting back into our Nursery routine and finding out about all of the wonderful things everyone has been doing over the Easter holidays. Over this half term, the themes and displays will be growing and life cycles, mini-beasts and planets. We will be learning more about life-cycles and using technology to see this for ourselves. We will also be watching our own creatures grow, using the big tub for some frog spawn. We also hope to have some caterpillars that we will watch grow, which we are very excited to share with the children. The children will be building their own rocket this term and learning all about the names of the planets in the solar system, we will even be making our own planets! These activities will be for both Pre-school and ducklings.

Your children's assessments will be handed to you during the first week back, along with their learning journals for you to look through. We need these to be returned the following day. The assessments need to be read through, commented on and signed before being returned to us. Each of the learning journals will be signed out and signed back in when returned to us. Please can all learning journals be returned to us in the same condition as they were given as staff members spend a large amount of time putting these together as we collate your children's memories. We would like to take this opportunity to offer a night for any parents who wish to speak to their children's key worker about their development and general enquires. This evening is optional. The date for this is Friday 27th April from 4pm. The sign-up sheet will be on the door so please enter your child's name in the slot you want. If you wish to speak to management about anything, please book an appointment with Mrs Lawrence or Miss Rogers.

Snack – Snack fees, of £1 per week, apply to all children who attend more than once a week. All payments for the previous 5 week term need to be up to date. This term is 6 weeks. Snack can either be paid weekly or termly. Thank you to everyone who has already paid. **REMINDER: Please can all grapes be cut in half horizontally in all of the children's lunchboxes.**

We will be joining the school for every non-uniform day. Dates to be listed in the School Newsletter.

Dates to remember	What's happening?	How are we celebrating these dates?
Monday 23 rd April	St George's Day	The children can dress up as Princesses and Knights for our celebrations. They will be learning all about why we are celebrating St George's Day.
Wednesday 25 th April	Italian Day	The children will be making their own pizzas and learning all about halves and quarters.
Friday 23 rd April	Parents evening	This parents evening is optional. It will run between 4pm – 5.30pm. Each slot will be 10 minutes, so if you have any questions please prepare them beforehand.
Monday 7 th May	May day	BANK HOLIDAY – NURSERY CLOSED
Thursday 17 th May	The Royal Wedding	The children can wear red, white and blue to celebrate the Royal wedding. We will be playing some traditional games and having a tea party.
Friday 18 th May	Parents day	We will be completing lots of crafts for our stay and play and are asking parents to come in at 2:15 – 3:15 for another craft afternoon as the children enjoyed the spring craft afternoon so much. If your children do not usually attend, they can come for the craft hour accompanied with a parent/carer.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

Over this half term, the Pre-school children will be ensuring that they can recognise rules, routines and boundaries not just in Nursery and at home, but also in less familiar surroundings. We will be taking this opportunity to write our rules before heading out on walks, so all of the children can recognise risk and danger. The ducklings will be focussing on team activities and ensuring they know that items can be theirs, others and shared.

Communication and Language (C+L)

During this term, the Pre-school children will be using a 'talking tool' to improve listening and attention skills and use this time to express their own interests. We hope to do this during whole and small group activities as this will allow them to share ideas and use these during their play. The ducklings will be introduced to Lola the Leopard that will help to do good sitting and listening. They will be encouraged to converse with the adults and their peers within Nursery, we are hoping that this will support their rapidly growing vocabulary.

Physical Development (PD)

The children will be using a range of materials to mark make this term which also links to expressive arts and design. Shaving foam, flour, chalks, jelly, water and slime will be some of the creative ways in which we will support both the ducklings to mark make. The children in Pre-school will be learning more about healthy eating, what helps us to grow and how to develop a healthy lifecycle

Literacy (L)

The preschool children have a book of the week where they complete activities to support their understanding of the stories and the use of books. They are shown how to handle books appropriately and shown that text is presented from left to right to support their future reading.

Week beginning	Book of the week - Preschool
Monday 16 th April	Jack and the beanstalk
Monday 23 rd April	The reluctant Dragon
Monday 30 th April	Whatever next
Monday 7 ^h May	The enormous turnip
Monday 14 th May	The very hungry Caterpillar
Monday 21 st May	Ten Tiddly Widdly Tadpoles

The pre-schoolers also have a letter/sound a week that they will focus on during their phonics sessions. They will learn the name of the letter and the sound it makes whilst having a new friendly puppet introduced each week for the sound. They have an action for each week which is included below which can be used to support learning at home. All of the Pre-school children will be writing letters during each phonics session, writing both lower and upper case letters.

W/B	Letter/sound	Action
16.04.18	K, CK	Pretend to use castanets whilst making the sound.
23.04.18	E	Pretend to crack open an egg whilst making the sound.
30.04.18	U	Pretend to put an umbrella up whilst making the sound.
07.05.18	R	Pretend to be a puppy and scrunch up your face whilst making the sound.
14.05.18	H	Place the palm of your hand in front of your mouth and make the sound.
21.05.18	B	Pretend to bat a ball whilst making the sound.

The ducklings complete a task each week supported by the rhyme of the week. This encourages them to learn repeated refrains and sounds from sounds and use them in their play. It also supports turn-taking, listening and attention and being imaginative.

W/B	Rhyme of the week	Lyrics - Ducklings	
16.04.18	5 little peas	5 little peas in the peapod pressed, 1 grew, 2 grew, so did all the rest, they grew and grew and grew,	they did not stop, until one day, the pod went pop (using fingers)
23.04.18	The noisy dragon	Noisy dragon, please be quiet, we are trying to sleep (hide the sound – let the children guess what it is)	
30.04.18	Hey diddle diddle	Hey diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle, the cow jumped over the moon,	the little dog laugh, to see such fun, and the dish ran away with the spoon
07.05.18	I'm a little turnip (I'm a little teapot tune)	I'm a little turnip, small and round, growing bigger under ground,	When I'm fully grown you will need to shout All your friends to pull me out
14.05.18	There's a tiny caterpillar (she'll be coming round the mountain tune)	There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf, wiggle wiggle (repeat), There's a tiny caterpillar,	a tiny caterpillar, There's a tiny caterpillar, on a leaf, wiggle wiggle.
21.05.18	Two tiny tadpoles (2 little dicky bird tune)	Two tiny tadpoles swimming in the lake, one named Jessie, one named Jake,	swim away Jessie, swim away Jake, come back Jessie, come back Jake

Maths (M)

In Maths, we want all of the Pre-school children to be able to represent numbers either by writing them, matching the numeral with objects or being able to find the number on the number line. We will also be ensuring they recognise some of the properties of 2D shapes (square, rectangle, triangle, circle, semi-circle). The ducklings will be using the measuring scales and seeing which side has 'more' or 'less' so they are using the language of size. We will be encouraging the ducklings to count to 1 -5 and above with less adult support.

Understanding the World (UW)

The children will be learning about the life cycle of a frog as we watch our tadpoles grow in our own little Nursery pond. We want to capture these moments of change and will encourage the children to take pictures of what they see changing and be able to represent it through art. If you have any particular rules and boundaries that you expect of the children at home, please let us know so we can share them in Nursery. This will help them understand about similarities and differences between people and their homes.

Expressive Art and Design (EAD)

We hope to cover ALL areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) whilst participating in our role play area.

Role play area

- Pizza parlour - Space station - Bakery - Fruit & veg stall - Ice cream parlour - Travel agents - Dinosaur museum

Home activity – Fred and Fluffy bear

Both Pre-school and ducklings will each have the chance to take home either Fred or Fluffy bear for a few days. They will come in a bag with their own notebook and we would love to see what they have been up to. We love reading these at circle time and looking at the photos that also get brought in. Everyone will have a turn and these memories will then be placed in the children's learning journals.