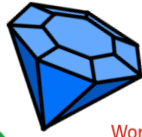




Shaw Education Trust

Sapphires Class Newsletter



Working together to

inspire nurture empower

Summer 1 April 2026

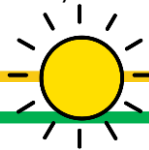
Hello & Updates

Dear Families,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break! We are excited to be back and ready for the summer term.

This term, our topic is “**Underground**”, and we will be spending more time outdoors, exploring the world around and beneath our feet. From soil and seeds to busy little creatures, there's so much to discover!

We'll also be meeting a very special friend – **a mole with big dreams** – who will guide our adventures and help the children learn through curiosity, play and hands-on exploration. We can't wait for a term of discovery, learning and outdoor fun! Keep a look out on EfL as well as the social media pages to see your child engaged in fun and messy moments this term.



Key Concepts and Skills

This half term, our story adventures include **Dream Big, Little Mole** and a selection of beloved **Percy the Park Keeper** tales. Our main focus will always be communication, with pupils encouraged to share their likes and dislikes in ways that suit them best, whether through speech, gestures, or other communication aids.

In PSHE, we're exploring “**Being Safe**” through dance and massage activities, helping pupils feel secure and connected with their key workers while enjoying interactive, playful learning.

In Cognition, pupils will be discovering cause and effect through hands-on sensory exploration. They'll engage with switch-activated toys, eye-gaze technology, and other interactive resources that spark curiosity and support independence. Nature will also play a big part, as pupils explore planting seeds and flowers, observing growth, and enjoying the wonder of the natural world around them.



Reminders / additional information



This half term our hydro days continue to be on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday** but please send in your child's kit at the beginning of the week as we may take them in whenever there is a space, please include a costume/trunks, 2 towels and some body wash/shampoo. Our Library day is **Friday** so please send in your child's library book so they can change it each Friday. Please remember to send in a change of clothes for your child each day, as we love to get messy in Sapphires, and we will be having more outdoor learning this half term.



Cognition and Maths

For **Cognition** you may want to try some of these activities.

Exploring Textures - Fill containers with different textures: pebbles, sand, water or pasta. Encourage scooping, pressing, or patting, noticing differences in feel and sound.

Soil and Mud Exploration

Provide soil or mud for hands-on digging. Hide small toys or objects for your child to find, promoting cause-and-effect learning.

Plant some seeds and watch them grow.



Communication

Enjoy reading or listening to *Dream Big, Little Mole* or a selection of *Percy the Park Keeper* stories together. If you know any other stories your child loves that link to our topic, we would be delighted for you to share them with us! We would also love to see some photos of you sharing stories with your child—please upload them onto EFL.



PSED

This half term, our PSHE focus is on **“Being Safe.”** Pupils will explore this through intensive interaction sessions that include dance and massage activities, designed to help them feel secure and supported with their key worker. These sessions provide opportunities for pupils to build trust, experience positive touch, and develop confidence in familiar routines. Through playful, sensory-rich interactions, pupils will learn to recognise safe spaces and relationships, while enjoying activities that promote relaxation, engagement, and a sense of well-being.

Physical Development

- Explore the Outdoors: Maybe you could go for a walk and enjoy the fresh air! Look out for signs of Spring, like budding flowers, new leaves.
- Gardening Fun: Encourage your child to grasp and use gardening tools to plant seeds. What can you grow together? Digging, scooping, and planting help strengthen hands and arms while developing coordination.



Makaton



Soil/Mud