

**Margaret McMillan Nursery School  
and Children's Centre**  
Hornsey Rise,  
Islington, N19 3SF  
Tel: 0207 281 2745

## Seedlings & Saplings Newsletter

**Welcome back to all our families and also welcome to all our new families!**

We are very much looking forward to you joining our community here at Margaret McMillan Nursery

### The Curriculum

We have been starting the term off by reminding children about **routines** of the day, as we always do at the start of the term. This really helps when the children model to our new friends how we play, share, take turns, wash our hands before lunch, hangs our coats and bags on our pegs etc. We will continue to encourage the children to develop their independence with all those things and to communicate to adults when they need help, in a way that is appropriate to them.

We aim to be outside in the garden a great deal this term, helping the children to develop their **gross motor skills**, exploring challenges, taking risks and trying new things, with lots of adult encouragement and positive reinforcement. We will focus on climbing from a range of heights and learning to balance on a range of equipment. We will create obstacle courses and use positional vocabulary such as over, under, through, next to, behind, in front of. Please do the same when out and about in the playground with your child!



Our topic is **Growing and Changing**. We have some very exciting visitors to Nursery in the form of Caterpillars and Duckling eggs. This is a wonderful real learning experience for the children as they watch them hatch, grow and change, setting butterflies free and sending ducklings back to the farm when they're ready. The children will also be planting seeds, watching them grow as they give them light and water, as well as exploring minibeasts in the garden.

For **Bear Week** on 6<sup>th</sup> July, the children will be invited to bring in a teddy bear (or soft toy) from home to share their Nursery experiences with. This could be a bear obstacle course, bear storytelling, feeding the bears in the home corner, building homes/ beds for the bears with blocks. etc. On **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July** the whole school will have a **Teddy Bear's Picnic** up in Sycamore class garden, where parents and carers are invited to join. If you can bring some healthy snacks for the picnic that would also be great (please nothing that contains NUTS!).



For **Maths**, we will continue to develop the children's counting skills, using strategies such as touching, pointing to objects when counting (one-to-one correspondence) or lining them up so they are easier to count.

We will also be doing lots of measuring, comparing size, height, length, capacity, as well exploring pattern, shape and colours in everything that we do. We will go on Colour Hunts and Listening Walks in our environment.



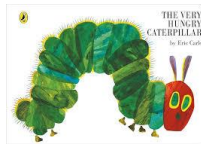
Within all these plans, it is also very important to us that we follow the children's interests, seeking out what they are motivated and inspired by so that we can fully engage them in their learning.

We continue to learn about the **changing seasons** and how moving from **Spring** to **Summer** brings a range of weather from wind to rain to sunshine. Perhaps even some rainbows! Please ensure your child is equipped with the right clothing so that they are *a/ways* able to be outside... it is very changeable these days so it's a good idea to check the weather the night before!

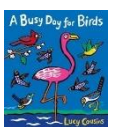
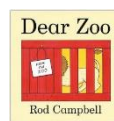
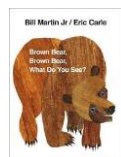
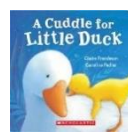
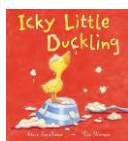


Our **core books** this term include:

Jasper's Beanstalk  
The Hungry Caterpillar  
Dear Zoo  
Have You Seen My Elephant?  
Brown Bear Brown Bear, What Do You See?



Polar Bear Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?  
Icky Little Duckling  
A Cuddle for Little Duck  
A Busy Day for Birds  
There's a Bear on My Chair  
Where's My Teddy?



We will be continuing to learn our **'Rhyme of the Week'** where the children learn a different rhyme each week. We have attached these rhymes so you can enjoy them at home too.

## Emotions

As always we will continue to support children with their emotional regulation, labelling their emotions and helping them to talk about how they feel and how we can help them. We will use lots of positive reinforcement and encouragement to reinforce this. Please see our **Positive Behaviour Policy** for more information on the approaches we use (available on our website).



## Fruit time

Thank you for your kind donations so far this year. Please continue to donate if you can as the children greatly benefit from additional fresh and fruit each day. **Please note that this is optional.**

## Parent workshops.

- **Toileting workshop** – Parents/ carers invited in to have support with toileting for and to ask any questions.
- **Bring your dad to Nursery** – dads (or grandads/ uncles) can come and join the fun and get busy in Saplings.
- **Den building workshop** for all the family.



Please also look out for the **Bright Start bulletin**. They offer wonderful free workshops to families.

You can register online if you haven't already done so to be kept up to date.

[bright start registration form august 21 electronic.pdf \(openobjects.com\)](https://openobjects.com/bright-start-registration-form-august-21-electronic.pdf)



## FAMILY

Please do check on FAMILY for observations on your child. If you would like to message staff please contact via phone or email as you normally would, as staff will be not checking FAMILY for this use.



## Attendance and punctuality

Thank you for your continued efforts to be here and collect on time. It makes a great difference to your child's day, in terms of their learning and well-being when they start and end the day on time.



We look forward to a fun, exciting and inspiring term ahead!