



# Nursery—Spring Newsletter 2024



## RE/PSED

Our R.E. topics this term are “Celebrating”, “Gathering” and “Growing”. Through these topics we learn about celebrating in our community and at church. We will also learn about growing in love for Jesus and about the Easter Story.

We will be working on building positive relationships through sharing and elaborating play ideas

The children will be encouraged to talk about their own abilities and describe themselves in positive terms. We will be talking about and understanding that some actions and words can hurt others.

Dear Parents and Carers, Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year!

It is wonderful to see all the children back in Nursery, happy and eager to learn. We continue to focus on keeping healthy and safe within the environment, encouraging hand cleaning routines and personal care to prevent the spread of germs. This term we will be welcoming new friends Annie, Delilah, Joseph, Aofie, Raine, Georgie, Chloe, Sophia, Max and Mabel. Please ensure your child’s clothing is labelled clearly with their name and their yellow bag is on their peg each day with a change of clothing, we have some very enthusiastic learners who love water, the mud kitchen and muddy puddles! Over the winter months we still access the outdoor learning environment each day so children need warm clothing including mittens. Friday will continue to be library day, the children will choose their own book to bring home and share with you, this needs to be returned the following week so the children can choose another. We will continue to share learning that occurs in Nursery via the online Seesaw app to promote our partnership with you as primary educators of your child. Please upload photos on the app of any achievements or things of interest your child would like to share/talk about, this gives a well rounded view of your child’s development. Activities and information will be sent home to support learning in Nursery. We would appreciate any useful boxes or containers for junk modelling, also lidded plastic containers such as takeaway or ready meal tubs which are very handy. PE will continue to be on a Tuesday, your child must be ready to participate in physical activity and wear trainers/PE shoes (we can help change into shoes if they are left in their yellow bag). Mrs.Craft will teach Nursery every Thursday morning.

We are looking forward to sharing your child’s learning journey with you throughout 2024. Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you have any concerns. Mrs.Williams and Miss McCue

## Physical Development

During all Nursery sessions the children will be provided with opportunities to develop their fine motor skills through the use of handling small parts, malleable materials including dough and use of one handed tools such as scissors, spades, trowels, paint brushes, glue sticks, knives and forks. We will work on developing a comfortable pencil grasp aided by Squiggle while you Wiggle. Large motor skills will continue to be developed through such activities as outdoor play, use of ribbons, pom-poms and building materials.

Please continue to encourage independence in dressing and undressing at home also to use a knife and fork appropriately.

Our PE sessions focus on dance—the children will build a sequence of movements to music. We will look at healthy eating and follow some recipes containing healthy food. The children will participate in baking sessions.

## Communication and Language

During play, we will be developing skills which help us with listening and responding to others. All children will be extending and widening their vocabulary through play, stories, songs and rhymes. We will use familiar texts to retell and recall stories. Children will be encouraged to answer questions about their favourite story, understand and answer ‘why?’ questions. We will develop the children’s skills in following instructions and Nursery boundaries, alongside finding solutions to solve conflict, developing an understanding of accepting others ideas. Children will be encouraged to talk about how they are feeling using words such as ‘happy’ ‘sad’ ‘angry’ or ‘worried’ and develop appropriate ways to be assertive.



## Literacy



Our 'Talk for Writing' text will be 'The Tiger that came to Tea'. Once familiar with the story we will act out, innovate and develop further understanding of beginning, middle and end of the story. The children will be encouraged to discuss illustrations and join in repetitive refrains and then retell familiar stories using prior knowledge of the text. An important part of enhancing young children's language and vocabulary is through rhyme so we will be singing Nursery rhymes and songs with actions and instrument/musical accompaniment. As part of our Early Reading curriculum, we will focus on alliteration and rhyming strings through games. We will continue to follow Read Write Inc scheme in line with school, playing listening games with Fred Frog. The children will have the opportunity to write shopping lists, recipes, messages and to recognise their names. We will also share factual books to look for information to share with each other—developing and discussing their knowledge.

## Understanding The World

Through our topic work 'Changes' —We will explore past and present by comparing old and new toys. The children will talk about their Christmas toys and compare them to toys their grandparents would have played with, how they have change and investigate how they work. We will look at changes in materials talking about texture. Through exploration the children will make a toy boat, selecting the correct materials to ensure it floats and remains dry. We will observe changes in climate, investigating winter weather linked to seasons of the year. We will also be taking part in the Great British Birdwatch over the coming weeks which the children always love.

Later in the term we will look at animals and their young along with studying the life cycle of a plant by caring for seeds and bulbs we have planted.

The children will be encouraged to develop their own ideas and develop strategies to reach a goal they have set themselves through exploration, investigation and concentration.

## Maths

Mathematical understanding is developed in all areas of the Nursery provision. Children problem solve, challenge themselves and build on prior knowledge through concrete and practical activities. Children will continue to use language of size, weight, capacity and position through their play. Number related songs and rhymes will be sung and acted out to familiarise children with number order, amounts and totals. We will use props in stories and rhymes to encourage comparison of quantities, using appropriate vocabulary. Children will begin to subitise, recognise, match numerals to quantities and understand place value through adult led games and play.

Numberblocks will be used to support learning about numbers.



## Expressive Art and Design

Children will have many opportunities to express themselves creatively and imaginatively. We will be observing the effect of changes when colours are mixed and malleable materials are moulded and ingredients combined during baking. Children will experiment and talk about different textures and materials. We will make ice sculptures and frosty winter pictures. Later in the term the children will have the opportunity to make spring and Easter crafts. Tools will be used to shape assemble and adapt their work. Role play will include a toy shop and garden centre. The dressing up clothes will extend imaginative play. We will continue to listen, move and enjoy a wide range of music. Children will be encouraged to make their own music to showcase to others and talk about music they hear and produce expressing feelings and ideas. We will continue to sing lots of actions rhymes and songs together.

