



# Nursery Newsletter



## Summer 1—2023/2024

### Notices and reminders

Welcome back to Nursery. We hope you had a wonderful Easter holidays with your friends and family!

As temperatures continue to rise throughout this half term, we ask that children come to school every day with a named water bottle filled with water (not sugary drinks, such as squash or juice), a wide-brimmed sun hat and an all-day SPF 50+ sun cream applied before the start of the day.

### Communication and Language

Through our minibeast topic the children will be continuing to learn new and exciting language. We will focus on asking and answering questions using who, what, where, why, when and how. The children will play games that help develop their understanding when following instructions that have one or two parts. The children will develop their imaginary and pretend play skills. They will also learn to communicate how they are feeling using words and actions.



### Physical Development

This half term the children will be focussing on developing their ball skills: throwing, kicking, rolling and catching, as well as learning to use control. They will also have opportunities to explore trikes, scooters and push along wheeled toys. The children will continue to develop their fine motor skills, manipulating and moving objects, using one-handed tools and learning to use a three and four finger grip to hold their pencil. They will practise mark making zig zag, curved and wiggly patterns on different media.



### Key dates

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – start of summer term

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Reception and year 3 school places offered for next academic year

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 – PTA meeting

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – year 1 squirrels class parent lunch

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – May bank holiday

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – year 1 trip to Wellington Country Park

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – Reception hedgehogs class parent lunch

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 – Reception moles class parent lunch

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – end of summer 1 (3:10pm collection)

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term the children will be growing a sense of self. They will confidently express their likes and dislikes. They will be thinking about healthy and unhealthy choices. Through circle times and play partners the children will be supported in extending and contributing to collaborative play. The children will continue to use the Zones of Regulation to identify emotions and begin to learning strategies to get back into the Green Zone.

## Literacy

This half term, the children will continue to develop early literacy skills through the core texts 'Mad About Minibeasts', 'The Hungry Caterpillar' and 'Jasper's Beanstalk'. They will use new vocabulary to develop storytelling through play. Through early phonics sessions, they will increase their awareness of words that rhyme and learn to produce rhyming words. The older children will be introduced to phonemes (sounds) and learn how these phonemes are linked to graphemes (letters). They will learn two per week, with activities and rhymes to support saying, spotting and tracing the letter sounds.



## Mathematics

This half term, we will be thinking about 'more' and 'less'. Children will compare two small groups of up to five objects, saying when there are the same number of objects in each group, e.g. You've got two; I've got two. Same! They will then sequence events and thinking about our daily routines. We will revisit our learning about 2D and 3D shapes and continue to explore and talk about them through investigative play. Children will know the shape names such as: circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids and will use informal and mathematical language such as 'sides', 'corners'; 'straight', 'flat', 'round'.



## Understanding the World

The children will be exploring their natural world through our core books and learn about how things grow and change over time. The Very Hungry Caterpillar story will help the children to revisit previous learning about the how humans grow and link this to animal lifecycles. Jasper's Beanstalk will support learning on how plants grow, and we look forward to planting our own seeds. The children will explore the seasons spring and summer and begin to describe differences in weather.

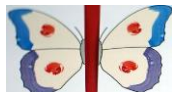


## Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be developing their scissor skills and learning how to connect different materials when using junk modelling. They will be making their own minibeast houses using a variety of materials. Through our core books, the children will develop their own stories through role play and small world resources. There will be a focus on patterns and colour which will inform their paintings and drawings. The children will express their thoughts, feelings and ideas through painting and drawing. The children will be supported by adults to draw with complexity and detail.



## Ideas for at home

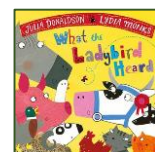
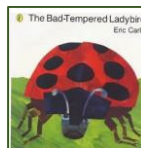


- Go on a bug hunt – what will you discover?
- Draw a butterfly with a friend, can you copy the pattern so each wing is the same?
- Plant some seeds at home, what do you need to do to help them grow?
- Think about your own name, what sound does it start with? Can you find things around the house that start with the same sound?
- Visit a garden centre and look at what is growing. What colours can you see?
- Go on an adventure with Jess from CBeebies

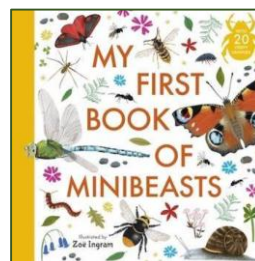
[Minibeast Adventure with Jess - CBeebies - BBC](#)

## Suggested books for reading

'The Bad-Tempered Ladybird' by Eric Carle



'What the Ladybird Heard' by Julia Donaldson



Non-fiction books about minibeasts