



Spring Term Newsletter Sapling and Seedling

The children have made a wonderful start to the school year and deserve their well-earned break! We hope you all have an amazing Christmas and New Year!

This newsletter is here to explain some of the things we will be learning in nursery and school this term and covers all areas of our EYFS curriculum.

We hope you find this information useful and should you have any questions please feel free to contact the school office.

Mrs Jones, Mrs Smurthwaite & Mrs Hunter

Communication and Language:

We aim to create a language rich environment for the children and believe spending time with them in the provision is highly valuable. Talk and conversations will be a big part of what we do with the children, as well as encouraging them to have quality conversations with each other.

Each day we will read and enjoy a story together as a class. The children will be exposed to ambitious and inspiring vocabulary through our chosen 'Drawing Club' animations, tales and stories.

PSED:

The children will continue to form relationships and friendships and begin to recognise that they belong to a community. We will also be looking at ways in which we can lead a healthy lifestyle and make healthy choices, focusing on healthy eating and caring for our teeth.

- Relationships and Being Me
- Diversity Matters

Our 3 school rules are embedded in everything that we do:

Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Respectful

As part of understanding the world (RE) we will be discussing:

'Which stories are special and why?'
'Where do we belong?'



Physical Development:

This half term our weekly PE session will take place on Mondays. PE will be taught by Rob, our sports coach. Please note these sessions are for **Reception**. Children should come to school in their PE kit on this day – **please tie long hair back and remove earrings**.

We will continue to provide funky finger activities such as playdough, tweezers and buttons, threading, cutting and construction. These activities allow children to improve their fine motor skills and hand eye coordination. The children will continue learning how to form letters correctly through our Supersonic Phonic Friends handwriting scheme.



Outside, the children will have access to different climbing equipment which promotes control and balance and develops good muscle strength and posture.

Literacy:

Like last term, we will be exploring a range of different texts with the children. As we enjoy reading a variety of books the children will begin to understand the different features e.g. front cover, blurb, title page and contents page as well as developing comprehension skills. There will also be a bigger focus on reading simple sentences which will include tricky words and spellings taught so far. This will allow the children to apply and use their phonic knowledge. We will also be continuing with 'Drawing Club' to develop our storytelling, imagination and vocabulary skills.

The children will continue to have plenty of opportunities for mark making and writing in all areas.

Maths:

We will continue to follow White Rose Maths in Nursery and Reception.

In Reception, our focus will be on numbers 1-10, looking at composition of numbers, how numbers are used in everyday life and the many ways numbers can be represented. We will model and encourage the children to use mathematical language to describe length, capacity and mass.

In Nursery, our focus will be position, space, subitising 1, 2, 3 and exploring patterns. Children will also spend time comparing and sorting collections of items.

Understanding the World:

For our geography themed work, we will be looking at features of our local environment. We will focus on Belper and compare it with another location.

We will continue to make observations about the natural world, the changing seasons and the other changes that we see in the environment.

As always, we will have plenty of exploration and investigations taking place in our provision!

Other Information:

As we welcome new children this term, we'd like to remind you that children in Reception and Nursery DO NOT require water bottles. We provide milk and fresh fruit daily for snack. Fresh water is available **ALL DAY** as part of our snack table provision.

Children in Reception require a named book bag – these are available from the school office. Our book bags ensure that school reading books are kept safe on their journeys to and from school! All children require a small drawstring bag on their peg with some spare clothes and indoor shoes/pumps.

Children in Nursery do not need a book bag but do need a small drawstring bag on their peg with some spare clothes and indoor shoes/pumps.

Please can we remind parents to label every item of clothing for your child- there have been lots of misplaced jumpers and cardigans recently and it makes them easier to find when they are labelled!!

Nursery session timings:

8:45-11:45am (morning session – NO lunch)
12:00-3:00pm (afternoon session – NO lunch)
8:45-3:00pm (full day – lunch required)



Reception school day:

8:45am-3:10pm

Thank you!! 🌟

Expressive Arts and Design:

We will continue to always have the workshop area available to the children with a wide range of creative opportunities such as, painting, collage, modelling, drawing and sketching. The children are encouraged to use their imagination and create whatever comes to mind!

In music this term we are continuing to follow our Charanga music scheme and will be completing the following units:

- **Everyone**
- **Our world**

The children will use their voices in different ways and will listen to different types of music.

The Nursery children will continue to enjoy a wide range of nursery rhymes and have opportunities to use musical instruments during their group times.

Reading Books:

We will continue visiting our school library each week to spend time enjoying different books and choosing new books to borrow. This will allow the children the opportunity to read for pleasure as well as giving them a broader knowledge and understanding of the different books available. We want to foster a love of reading and expose children to as many stories as possible.

Children in Reception will bring home a new phonic reading book each Friday. We ask that they read this book to you as often as possible. These books will closely match the phonics they have been learning in school but may differ between individual children. Please write a brief comment in their reading diary or simply sign to say you have read together. **Please sign their reading diary each week.**

Over the Christmas break, please continue reading with your child at home - little and often!! Please read their phonic reading book, as well as a range of other books from home and the library.

Reception - Please focus on **tricky** words with your child until they can read them without hesitation. These are sight words and cannot be sounded out! Look back at the Supersonic Phonic Friends newsletters sent home this term - check your child recognises the sounds for each spelling taught so far.

Tricky Words:

I, is, to, the, go, no, into, of, has, his, as, her, was & you

