

Outside Area

This term we are hoping to do some more work in our outside area. We would like to finish painting and decorating the two circular boards that are in the playground.

We are also planning to plant some more flowers and vegetables with the children. Last year we grew carrots, salad crops and potatoes and enjoyed tasting them at snack time. We would love to have some help with this so please let us know if you are interested and have a little time to spare, maybe every now and then, or on a regular basis.



We are also hoping to create some shelters and dens in the nursery garden for the children to play in, as well as to leave some tracks and trails for them to follow.



Classroom Help

A huge thank-you to all those who have been helping in the Nursery. We appreciate this immensely. If you are able to offer some time to join in with us, please see Miss. Hardy or Miss. Snook.

Communication

This term we are planning to set up a 'Wow!' board to record and celebrate the children's achievements both at home at school. You may already have seen the one in Class 1. We will let you know more about this during the term.

We work hard to do the best for your child. If, at any time, you have a concern or query please come and talk to the Nursery staff. If you are still concerned, please talk to the Phase 1 Co-ordinator (Elspeth)

Staff:

Nursery Teachers:
Rosemary Hardy and Sally Snook

Nursery Nurse:
Catherine Whatling

Teaching Assistants:
Linda and Becky

Nursery Newsletter



SPRING TERM 2009

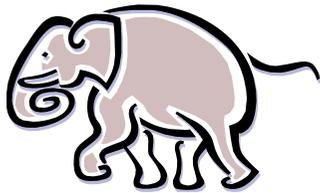
Welcome!

A big welcome to you all - especially those who are just joining us. We have a really fun term ahead, with lots to do and experience - finishing with our graduation ceremony for children joining the reception class at Easter and our end of term party!

We hope you all enjoy it.



During the term we will continue to encourage the children to become independent, to have a go and to experience a range of activities. As always, we really appreciate your support with this.



Topic

Our topic this term is 'Colour and Shape' and we cover all areas of the Foundation Stage curriculum within this.

In **Communication, Language and literacy** we will read some of the 'Elmer the Elephant' stories by David McKee and other animal stories, as well as books about colour, shape and pattern. We will make books about Elmer and his adventures! We will also have activities to encourage name recognition and writing. In **Mathematical Development** we will make patterns using a variety of materials, natural and man-made. We will talk about colours and name them. We will have activities that provide opportunities describing the properties of different shapes and naming them. Activities will encourage children to sort objects and shapes into sets, to count and to talk about what they have done. In **Knowledge and Understanding of the World** we will find out about our environment, with Elmer. We will look at pictures of Elmer in the school building and grounds, We will make simple maps of his travels around the school and nursery. We will use the computer to make pictures of Elmer. In **Creative Development** we will explore colour through lots of different media. We will explore texture by weaving different materials through structures. We will make patchwork hangings to hang in the nursery. We will use percussion instruments to make different beats. In **Personal and Social Development** we will encourage the children to have a developing awareness of their own feelings, to think about how we use expressions to show our feelings and to think about how we treat others. Lastly, in **Physical Development** we will use our bodies to make tall, small, wide and narrow shapes.

Regular Nursery Activities

During every nursery session, children participate in literacy and numeracy activities. These include writing their name, learning letter names and sounds and having a go at writing—counting, number and shape recognition and ordering numbers. You can help your child with this by counting at every opportunity, looking at letters and numbers in the environment and singing number rhymes. Our carpet sessions always include songs and a story, and we have a thinking skills session once a week. We also have a weekly cooking activity (the children eat their efforts at snack time).



Music—As well as our daily singing, we have a weekly music session when the children have access to a wide range of percussion instruments. This term we are investigating following a rhythm pattern.



P.E - Our PE sessions are on **Friday mornings and afternoons**. We follow a programme that develops each child's basic motor skills, co-ordination and control, spatial awareness and aiming skills.

Reading

You are very welcome to change your child's book as often as you wish. It would be great if, when you are sharing a book with your child, you could encourage them to talk about the story and the characters, get them to re-tell the story in their own words and look at the text more closely—for example, can they find the letters in their name. We also share books with the children on a regular basis, both in groups and individually.



Important Dates

February 16th - Half-Term week begins

March 4th—Nursery Welcome Meeting –
March 18th—Reception Welcome Meeting

March 18th, March 25th and April 1st—
Reception Induction

27th March—PTA Easter Disco

Tuesday 31st March—Nursery graduation ceremonies

Thursday 2nd April—Nursery Parties

April 6th —Easter Holiday begins