

School Links



Your child's first year at school is exciting for you as well as your child. We welcome you to share in their experience and hope you feel welcome in the nursery at the beginning and end of each session.

In our nursery entrance you can find out about any events or news. Remember to take a look at our class page on the school website. We will be updating it regularly with exciting photos of our busy jobs and news!

www.dunstonhillcps.co.uk

Planning and Assessment Time

Mrs Warrilow has her planning preparation and assessment time each Friday. This will always be covered by Mrs Bootland who will work in nursery on this day. Both teachers are highly skilled in early years and are always available to offer advice and support. They are ably supported by Ms Baud, Mrs Cusmano and Mrs Gregory. Mrs O'hara shares her time between Nursery and Reception Classes.

Useful Websites

You may find the following websites useful for your child:

www.dunstonhillprimary.org.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/schools

www.ictgames.co.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/scienceclips

www.crickweb.co.uk/earlyyears

Dates for the Diary

February

Friday 9th February

Date to be confirmed

Break up for half term holidays

Read Write Inc. workshop for parents

March

Thursday 1st

Friday 23rd

Date to be confirmed

Tuesday 27th

Wednesday 28th

Thursday 29th

World Book Day

Red Nose Day

New Nursery intake induction

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations

Break up for Easter holidays



If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact one of the Nursery Team.

Curriculum Overview



Nursery



SPRING TERM

The Nursery Team would like to wish a happy new year and a warm welcome to all our Nursery children and their families. This is our Curriculum Overview that you will receive every term in school. It will give you an outline of what is happening in our Nursery and ways in which you can help your child and get involved with school life.



We are learning...



In Nursery we continue to focus on the three Prime Areas of learning.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During the first half of the spring term we will be helping our new children settle into nursery, helping them to feel confident and happy in their new environment, and establishing nursery routines. We will continue to be kind to one another, follow routines and boundaries whilst looking after our nursery.

Communication and Language

We continue to encourage your child to talk about where they are planning to work and recall their learning during review time. Using our group puppets we will encourage good listening skills and taking turns in conversation. We will encourage the children to follow simple instructions and ask questions. Through music and a variety of rhymes, we will support the children to move with rhythm and keep a steady beat whilst listening to the actions in the songs.

Physical Development

We will become more aware of how our bodies can move and begin to develop an awareness of space. Using our stimulating outdoor environment including the climbing frames, bikes, scooters, digging areas and creative stage, we will be developing gross motor skills. We will discuss safety rules for using large and small equipment both inside and out. The children will engage in 'Dough Disco' to encourage them to develop the skills necessary for mark making. Other activities will include mark making in shaving foam, finger paints, chalks, threading and patterns in the sand. Outside we will use resources such as squeeze bottles, large paint brushes and other interesting tools.



Specific Areas



These areas are taught in a play-based and active approach ensuring that children are engaged in their learning.

Literacy: We read daily so that your child becomes familiar with books and we encourage children to participate in activities based on stories which may link with writing, speaking, maths and other interests from the children. Very soon some children will be taught early reading skills and phonics through 'Read, Write Inc.'

Mathematics: We will sing number rhymes and in practical activities we will count a variety of objects and sort them by colour, type, size and shape. We will use language such as the same, more, less, big and little and positional language such as in, on, under, in front, behind, next to. We will explore 2D and 3D shapes using them to make pictures and patterns.

Understanding the World: We will talk about and explore the weather as this is something the children have found very interesting and relate to, drawing on their own experiences. The snow and ice has been a current favourite topic of discussion.

Expressive Arts and Design: Nursery will use a variety of materials and techniques to explore constructing for a purpose to make models. We will engage in role play for example in the house or the shop and follow the children's interests.



Our Curriculum



We believe that children are entitled to a diverse, challenging and effective curriculum that:

- Responds to individual needs;
- Acknowledges their natural enthusiasm and their need to be active learners;
- Builds on previous experiences;
- Supports and develops their thinking and learning;
- Provides appropriate experiences and activities across all areas of learning and development.

In nursery we focus on the interests of the children and plan activities that promote active learning and thinking.

Supporting your Child at Home



Your support is always appreciated and routines are key to your child's development. We would be very grateful if you could practise some routines with your child at home,

- * Count at every opportunity
- * Share story books
- * Learn simple shapes by identifying them in surroundings
- * Encourage your child to dress themselves and help them fasten their coats.

We also encourage you to share your child's experiences both at home and nursery through the new online learning journals. A member of the nursery team will support you through this once your child has settled.

Your child will have their own 'Me, My World, My Family book'. You can use this book to tell us about what they have been doing at home through photographs or pictures. The children enjoy sharing their news with their key workers and peers. Your child is also welcome to borrow books as part of our nursery library.

Special Requests



- * We love to be outdoors in all weather so please bring in a pair of wellies to stay in nursery with your child's name clearly marked.
- * To support your child with their independence when getting dressed, please ensure they wear shoes that are easy for them to put on such as those with velcro fastenings.
- * Please ensure that your **child's name** is in every piece of clothing to prevent items from getting lost. If you have any unwanted children's clothing, we would be grateful if you could bring this to Nursery for us to use as spare.
- * We collect a donation of **50p a week** for the nursery fund. This helps us to buy ingredients for play-doh and baking as well as exciting items for our play.
- * If you have any unwanted books, please donate them to our library so they can be borrowed for nursery children to take home.