



Out and About



-Our children love to listen to stories and we love to make these times even more exciting through our 'Mystery Readers'. If you would like to come into school to share a story book with some of our Nursery children please let us know.

-We will be visiting Hall Hill Farm this term, this is a fantastic hands-on visit that offers lots of wonderful learning opportunities. We will be looking for some volunteers to support our visits.

-We are continuing to develop our outdoor area if you have any gardening skills you could offer or anything you could donate we would be more than grateful.



Dates for the Diary



May

Saturday 11th May

Friday 24th May

June

Mon 3 June

Wed 19 June (Nursery AM)

Wed 26 June (Nursery PM)

Wednesday 26 June

July

Thursday 18 July

Dunston Gala Day

Break up for half term

Teacher Training Day

Educational Visit to Hall Hill Farm

Educational Visit to Hall Hill Farm

Reception New Starters Induction Meeting

Break up for summer holidays



Mrs Bootland has her planning preparation and assessment time each Wednesday. This will always be covered by Miss David-John 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.



If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bootland, Mrs Cusmano, Ms Baud, Mrs Gregory or Ms David-John.

Curriculum Overview



Nursery

Summer Term



Welcome



The Nursery Team would like to say a warm welcome to all our new 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. The staff plan activities based on what they have observed the children doing in their play, focussing on their interests.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

During the first weeks of the summer 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 continue being kind to one another, following routines and boundaries whilst looking after our Nursery—both indoor and outdoor. We encourage children to be confident in asking adults for help and to become more willing to participate in new social situations. Our current Nursery children love to help look after our new starters.

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 model good listening skills and taking turns in conversation. Building confidence to talk to adults and peers is key as well as following and responding to instructions whilst building a range of different vocabulary.

Physical Development

We will continue to focus on the children's fine and gross motor skills through mark making, painting, sand and movement within our indoor and outdoor environment as well as developing pencil grips and letter formations in name writing. We will begin to observe the effect of physical activities on our bodies as well as continuing to practise putting coats on and fastening them with growing independence.



Our Curriculum



We follow a HighScope Curriculum with an emphasis on active learning which means our children have direct, hands-on experiences with people, objects, events, and ideas. The Nursery team support children's choices of activities, play with them at their level, focusing on their strengths, and encourage them to find solutions to their own problems.

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.



How to Help 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 skills at home:

- * Count at every opportunity
 - * Recognise their own name
 - * Attempt to write their own name when they are ready
 - * Learn colours
 - * Share story books
 - * Talk about rhyming words and sounds in the environment
 - * Talk about and make marks with your child using paper, sand, shaving foam and other interesting and varied forms
 - * Learn simple shapes by identifying them in surrounding areas
 - * Encourage your child to dress themselves and help them fasten their coats.
- Please fill in a 'WOW' moment card when your child does something fabulous at home so we can celebrate in nursery too.
- We also encourage you to share your child's experiences both at home and nursery through your child's online learning journal when they are open. You will be introduced to this by Mrs Bootland.
- Your child will have the opportunity to bring home the class cuddly toy and diary to keep for the weekend. The children enjoy sharing their news with their key workers and peers.



Special Requests



- * 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.
- * We love to be outdoors in all weather so please bring a pair of wellies to stay at school with your child's name clearly marked.
- * As the warm weather approaches, the children enjoy spending an increased amount of time in the outdoor environment. Therefore, please ensure you provide a sun hat and apply sun cream before arriving at Nursery.
- * Please can you 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 them to Nursery for us to use as spare.
- * If you have any unwanted books, please donate them to our library
- * We ask that children do not bring toys to Nursery as they can become easily lost or broken
- * We like to make your child feel welcome in Nursery, so we ask that you bring a family photograph which can be displayed. This enables us to talk about family life and the people who are important to us.
- * We collect a donation of **50p a week or £3 per half term** for the Nursery Fund. Which helps us buy ingredients, snacks and other exciting resources. Thank you!

