

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.

Remember to take a look at the curriculum news page on the school website and Facebook. We will be updating these 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 and Mrs Cusmano. Mrs Walton shares her time between Nursery (each afternoon) and Reception Classes and Mrs O'Hara supports the nursery children between Monday and Thursday each morning.

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

Tuesday 28th January—Story Sack Family Learning sessions begin
Tuesday 11th February and Wednesday 12th February—Parent Consultations
Thursday 5th March—World Book Day
Friday 14th February—Break up for Half term
Monday 16th March—Healthy Me workshop in school
Easter Holidays—Monday 6th April
Read Write Inc. Parent workshop—date to be confirmed



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 you 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 squeeze bottles and large paint brushes and tools.



Specific Areas



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

Literacy: We share stories daily so that your child becomes familiar with books and we encourage children to participate in activities based on familiar stories which may link with writing, speaking, maths and other interests from the children. As your child progresses they 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 can relate to, drawing on their own experiences.

Expressive Arts and Design: Nursery will use a variety of materials and techniques to explore and construct 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. We will also use photographs of your child's families as a tool to encourage listening skills as they speak and develop important conversational skills amongst their friends.

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,

- * **Encourage your child to dress themselves and help them fasten their coats.**
- * **Teach independent skills**
- * **Say please and thank you**
- * Count at every opportunity
- * Learn colours
- * Share story books
- * Learn simple shapes by identifying them in surroundings

In the next few weeks we will allow your child to borrow books from school as part of our library.

Special Requests



- * We love to be outdoors in all weather so please can you bring in a pair of wellies to stay at school 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 them to Nursery for us to use as spare.
- * We collect a donation of **50p a week** for the nursery fund or £3.00 a half term. This helps us to buy ingredients for play-doh and baking as well as exciting items for our play.