



## Early Year Unit: Nursery Newsletter - Spring 1

### Welcome

Welcome back to Hazel Leys Nursery and a big happy new year. We would like to thank all for joining us for our Christmas play and we hope that you enjoyed it and are as proud of your children as we are. Thank you for all your support last half term.

Nursery team

### Spring 1 focus

Our focus this term is dinosaurs. In this unit children will learn about two specific dinosaurs: the very familiar Tyrannosaurus Rex and the Stegosaurus. These two dinosaurs are very different and are a great choice to allow the children to compare the two. They will be able to discuss how they walked, what they looked like, and what they ate.

### Phonics

At Hazel Leys, we use the *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised* scheme. In Nursery, your child will take part in daily phonics sessions which will encourage them to listen to sounds in words, such as the sound that their name starts with. We will continue to use oral blending to develop their understanding of sounds.

**Phonics**

Please visit our school website to get up-to-date information about phonics at Hazel Leys.

<https://www.hazelleysacademy.org/page/?title=Phonics&pid=219>

### Literacy

This term, we will be using books to link to our learning about dinosaurs, including Dinosaur Bones, Never Show a T-Rex a Book and If I had a Dinosaur. We will explore the vocabulary in each of the books and add actions to help the children to remember them.



Every Friday, your child will choose a 'Reading for Pleasure' book to take home. This is a book to be shared with the adults at home. By reading a wide range of books, your child will be emersed in storytelling and will expand their vocabulary. **Please return the book on a Thursday and we will send home a new book on a Friday.**

### Maths

We LOVE to count in Early Years, we count everything and sing lots of number rhymes to help us remember the order of numbers when rote counting. This term we will be focusing on accurate number recognition and looking at number lines and ordering numbers from 1-5.



### Communication and Language

This term we will be focusing on many ways to help the children to develop their vocabulary. We begin with Phonics to help the children with their communication. We will also sing daily nursery rhymes and we will send a nursery rhyme home each week for you to practice at home with your child. We will also be reading a mixtures of themed books and reading for pleasure books within the nursery.



### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will be looking at how to be a friend, why we come to nursery, being kind and sharing, telling an adult when there is a problem and explaining my feelings to others. We will also be looking at school rules and how to form friendships within my class.



### Physical Development

In nursery, we will be practising ways to move, encouraging fine motor activities. We will do this by using scissors, pencils, and cutlery, encouraging good posture when sitting at the table or on the floor and practicing ball skills. We also have dough disco every morning to strengthen our fine motor skills.





**Understanding the World**

This term we will be looking at different dinosaurs and talking about them being alive long before humans existed. We will also be learning about Chinese New Year and taking part in some of their wonderful celebrations.



**Expressive Arts and Design**

We will be looking at painting different types of dinosaurs and printing with dinosaur toys using their feet to make a pattern. We will also be creating Chinese New Year crafts and exploring why the colour red is so important during this celebration.



**Helping your child learn at home**

- Share the 'Reading for Pleasure' book with your child.
- Encourage your child to put on their coats independently.
- Practice counting objects at home.



**Rewards**

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



**Skills Builder**

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities.



**Class information**

**Nursery team:** Miss Norris, Miss Witton and Miss Allen



Please remember to bring spare clothes in for your child as we like to do messy play indoors and outdoors, we can leave this bag at nursery and take home when you need to change the clothes.

**Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask that you do not put anything in that contains nuts and to make it a healthy selection of food.**

If your child has a purple jumper, we do encourage them to wear this in nursery as we do a lot of messy play.  
Thank you.



**Dates for the diary!**



Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January- Teacher training day  
 Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – School reopens to pupils  
 Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January – Maths drops in parent sessions (more information to follow)  
 Monday 9<sup>th</sup> to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Children's Mental Health week  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – School closes for half term



Join us for our Parent/ Guardian workshops.

Six individual workshops across the year.

Learn how to support your child's reading at home in a safe, supportive space.

Enjoy the flexibility to join the workshops that best support your child's learning journey.

**3:20-3:45pm in the school hall**

- o Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Building strong foundations –
- o Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Reading book top tips – - - -
- o Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Growing vocabulary and language skills
- o Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Developing accurate readers
- o Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May – Understanding reading development
- o Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Fostering a love of reading

"READING IS A PASSPORT TO COUNTLESS ADVENTURES"



**Further information will be provided about each session throughout the year before you register to book.**



# Special Educational Needs



## Information for Parents

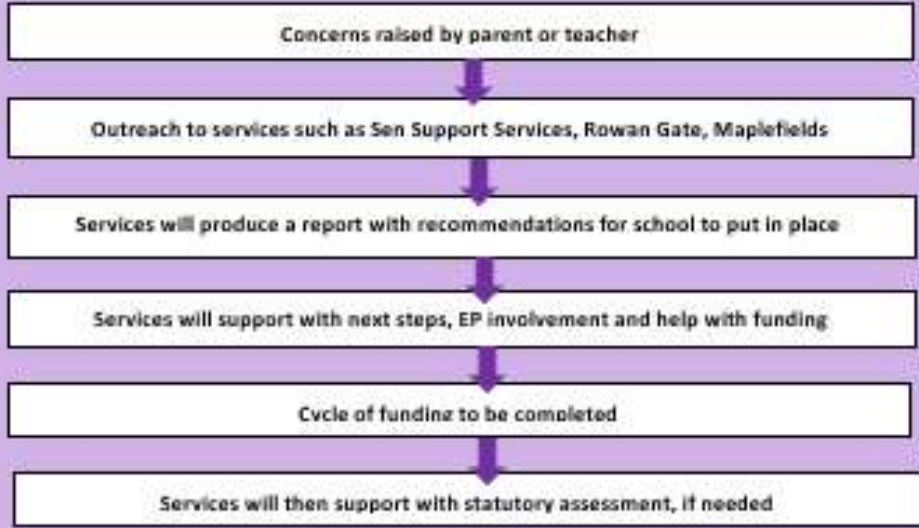
### What are Special Educational Needs?

Some children have difficulties that mean they don't learn in the same way or at the same rate as other children. For example, they have a speech difficulty that makes it hard for them to be understood or express their ideas and causes problems with learning letters and sounds (phonics), that can make learning to read difficult.

These children need special support to help them to learn and to achieve.

They may need this support for a short time or for a longer period, but during this time they will be part of our Special Educational Needs (SEN) register and we will keep a close eye on their progress, look carefully at what special support they need and keep in close touch with their parents.

### Hazel Leys Academy SEND Protocol



### Who do I talk to if I think my child has Special Needs?

#### Your child's class teacher

They will be able to listen to your concerns and discuss with you how your child is managing at school.

They will discuss your concerns with the SENDCo.



#### The SENDCo (Special Educational Needs & Disability Co-Ordinator)

Miss Kamel is always happy to discuss any concerns with parents.

You can arrange to see her by contacting the school office or by sending an email to:

[akamel@hazelleysacademy.org](mailto:akamel@hazelleysacademy.org)

## What happens if my child has Special Needs?

If your child is thought to have special needs, this will be discussed with you and the child may be placed on the SEND register. This is a list of children who need to be closely monitored and who may need additional help.

Very few children with SEN need one-to-one help in school. Most of them can make progress in class with teachers who are aware of their difficulties and know how to adapt their teaching to suit them.

Many (but not all) children on the SEN register will have some small group time each week to help them with their particular difficulty (e.g. a language group or a reading group).

## Communication with parents

- Parents of children on the SEN register must be given opportunities to meet with the teacher and/or SENDCo to discuss their child's progress at least 3 times a year. This can be at parents evening or at additional meetings.
- Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)  
These give parents a more central role in discussing and deciding what their child needs and a framework of expectations through which to support the child's needs.

## What can Hazel Leys Academy offer children with Special Needs?

- A commitment to helping every child make progress and being happy at school.
- A range of interventions to help children overcome the barriers to their learning.
- Adaptions in the classroom that help children learn in a way that suits them.
- Referral to support agencies such as Speech and Language Therapists or Specialist Teaching Service.
- Regular reviews between parents, Teacher and SENDCo to discuss the children's needs and progress.

