

## Early Year Unit: Nursery Newsletter - Spring 2

### Welcome

Welcome back to Hazel Leys Nursery, I hope you have a well-rested break. I would like to thank our parents for their contribution last term and for participating in our maths workshop. We have been using Evidence me throughout the last term, please feel free to use it at home and share your children's accomplishments as we like to share them in class for all their friends to see.

### Spring 2 focus

Our focus this term is Growing and changing. In this unit children will learn that we have seasons on earth. The children will reconnect to this knowledge later in Reception and in Year 1. They will learn that in springtime some plants grow flowers. Children will look at leaves, noticing their shape, colour, and patterns. They will have the opportunity over time to build their vocabulary including names of plants and trees.



We are excited to have eggs arriving in school so that we can watch them hatch and learn about the lifecycle of a duck. We will be inviting you in to share this exciting experience. More information will follow.

### 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. This term we will focus on the e, u, r, h, b, f sounds and playing listening and attention games.

### Phonics

### Literacy – Writing

During this term we will be doing our pencil grip activities. Looking at pinch fingers and how we hold a pencil. We will also be looking at mark making activities with different resources and materials.



### Literacy - Reading

We will be sharing lots of lovely stories with your child in Early Years and we will upload examples of the work that we do that links to our weekly story focus to Evidence me for you to share at home.



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 bring the reading book back on a Thursday so we can change it to a new book to bring home 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 the number 5, including how it can be represented, counted and its place on a number line. We will also start to learn about mass and capacity.



### Communication and Language

This term we will continue to sing nursery rhymes daily and we will send a nursery rhyme home each week for you to practice at home with your child. We also provide a range of role play experiences that model high quality vocabulary for your children to use. We will also be introducing more communication focused group work to support the children's language development.



### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will be looking at making healthy choices, such as healthy foods and exercise, all linking back to the work we started during mental health week. Staff will continue to model social interactions for children and use language that develops their understanding of their emotions.



**Physical Development**

In Nursery, we will be practising ways to move, encouraging fine motor activities, such as 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.



**We are excited to be having our new outdoor area installed later this term which will offer more gross motor opportunities for all the children. Please ask a member of staff about the plan for the outdoor classroom.**

**Understanding the World**

This topic is focusing on the outside. We will be answering questions such as ‘are all leaves the same shape?’, ‘do all plants need water to grow?’ and ‘do all babies look like their parents?’. These ways of working scientifically help children to think not only about the type of questions we can ask about the world, but how we go about finding answers.



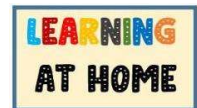
**Expressive Arts and Design**

We will be planting and decorating leaves. We will be making wind chimes to hang out in our outdoor area. We will be using different materials to paint with such as fruit and sponges and collecting leaves to do leaf rubbing and leave a mark. The children will also be making Mother’s Day and Easter crafts throughout the term. The children will have a range of role play opportunities so they can experience planting, growing and taking on the role of a gardener.



**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.
- Listening to sounds in their name



**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.



**Rewards**

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



**Class information**

**Nursery staff:** Miss Norris, Miss Witton and Miss Allen.

- **Evidence Me:** Please check Evidence Me regularly for updates on what we are doing in nursery!
- Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts and to make it a **healthy selection of food**.
- Please could we ask that all children bring in at **least two changes of clothes**. These can be kept in a bag on their pegs. Staff will inform you if they have had to change your child.



Thank you for your support with these matters

**Dates for the diary!**



Monday 23rd February – School reopens to pupils



- Thursday 5th March – World Book Day
- Monday 9th to Friday 13th March – Science week
- Tuesday 17th March – Nursery intake meeting
- Wednesday 18th March – Parents Consultation Evening 3pm – 6.30pm
- Thursday 19th March – Parents Consultation Evening 3pm – 5.30pm
- Wednesday 18th March – Class photos
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Comic/Sports Relief
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – School closes