



Nursery Class Information - Spring Term 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to Nursery! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and a very Happy New Year from us all here at Parklands. Our children will take part in our Spring term 2 'Parklands Experience', an opportunity be curious, explore, try new things, and experience awe and wonder. Last term it was a little too cold and frosty to plant outside, so we enjoyed planting our magic beans which we will transplant outside as the weather gets warmer. We also enjoyed exploring outside of Nursery as we visited West Park, searched for the 'troll' and looked for patterns around us. This term, we look forward to experiencing 'The Arts' for our Parklands Experience and will be inviting family to join us for a 'stay and create' morning.

We are starting Spring Term 2 with our topic 'Down at the Bottom of the Garden'. We base our learning around a topic which we change every half term. These are supported by high quality texts and give the children a broad range of learning opportunities and experiences. This half term we look forward to exploring minibeasts and even watching caterpillars transform into We will lose our imagination in the following books. 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'Bumblebear', 'Superworm', 'What the Ladybird Heard / Heard Next', 'The Snail & the Whale' and 'We're Going on an Egg Hunt'.

Baking & Cooking

The children had another fantastic term learning new baking skills, trying new ingredients and following recipes carefully to produce lots of yummy treats. This term we look forward to making story themed creations such as Hungry Caterpillar smoothies, honey bee cakes and snail cinnamon swirls! We have now used all our baking money and so we would really appreciate you sending a donation of £3 for this term.

☀ Chatterbooks / Reading Books ☀

We cannot emphasise enough the importance of sharing your child's reading and Chatterbook with them at home. Sharing stories unlocks a world of imagination and provides an essential opportunity to develop new vocabulary.

PLEASE SEND READING BOOKS IN SCHOOL BAGS EVERY DAY! We will share stories with your child throughout the week. We will also be introducing a whole school reading reward system for reading at home, so watch this space!

'Important' Parklands Person

This half term we will be helping the children to think about how they can be an Important Parklands Person. This will be discussed in class and as part of our everyday provision for PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development). Please ask your child what they are doing to become an Important Parklands Person!



Spring Term 2 in Nursery



Literacy

Phase 1 Phonics

- * Building sentences
- * Making up stories
- * Rhyme, rhythm and alliteration

We will continue to listen to lots of rhymes and alliteration in our stories, poems and songs.

This term, we will naming pictures starting with the same sound and listening for rhyming words. Try playing 'I Spy' at home to support hearing those initial sounds in words. We will also post weekly Phonic Challenges on Tapestry.



Please share these books with your children – they can be found online too.



We will be developing our writing skills by:

- Taking part in Dough Disco and Squiggle while you Wiggle
- Using tools for mark making with control
- - Gripping using five fingers and then two fingers and thumb (tripod grip)
- - Copying shapes, letters and pictures

Maths

- Reciting numbers in order to 10
- Sometimes matching numeral and quantity correctly
- Knowing that numbers identify how many objects are in a set
- Comparing two groups of objects, saying when they have the same number, more or fewer
- Separating a group of three or four objects in different ways, beginning to recognise that the total is still the same
- Realising not only objects but anything can be counted, including steps, jumps or claps

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Self-Regulation

- More outgoing towards unfamiliar people and more confident in new social situations
- Confidently talking to other children when playing, and will communicate freely about home
- Showing confidence in asking adults for help

Managing self

- Aware of own feelings and knows that some actions and words can hurt others feelings
- Beginning to accept the needs of others and taking turns and sharing resources, sometimes with support from others

Building Relationships

- Playing in a group, extending and elaborating play ideas, e.g. building up a role-play activity with others
- Initiating play, offering cues to peers to join them
- Keeping play going by responding to what others are saying or doing

Understanding the World

Past and Present

- Be familiar with terms like new and old
- Have an awareness that they can do more for themselves now than when they were babies
- Likely to have come across photographs of their grandparents and great grandparents when they were young

People, Culture and Communities

- In pretend play, imitating everyday actions and events from own family and cultural background, e.g. making and drinking tea
- Learning that they have similarities and differences that connect them to, and distinguish them from, others

The Natural World

- Talking about minibeasts, lifecycles and how they change over time
- Showing care and concern for living things and the environment

Spring Term 2 in Nursery



Physical Development

Fine Motor – Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle

We will continue to complete our weekly 'Squiggle while you wiggle' sessions to support our writing skills. We will also be working on using scissors with confidence and accuracy. Try the link to the right for ideas!

Gross Motor

This term we will take part in Dance and apparatus PE sessions in the hall on Friday mornings. We will also practise:

- Catching a large ball
- Moves freely such as slithering, rolling, crawling, walking, running, jumping, skipping and hopping using equipment
- Running and negotiating space.

Scissor skills!

Try out the following exciting scissor challenges

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5HfQhWPYn4>

Expressive Arts and Design

Creating with Materials

- Experimenting with blocks of colour and marks
- Understanding that they can use lines to enclose a space, and beginning to use these shapes to represent objects

Being Imaginative

- Enjoy joining in with dancing and ring games
- Singing a few familiar songs
- Beginning to move rhythmically
- Imitating movement in response to music
- Tapping out simple repeated rhythms
- Exploring and learning how sounds can be changed
- Singing to self and making up simple songs, including rhythms
- Noticing what adults do, imitating what is observed and then doing it spontaneously when the adult is not there

Weekly nursery rhymes

Our weekly nursery rhymes for the term:

- * Baa Baa Black Sheep
- * Ring a Ring 'o Roses
- * With my Foot I Tap
- * Jack and Jill
- * The Alphabet Song
- * Polly Put the Kettle On
- * She'll be Coming Round the Mountain
- * One Finger One Thumb

RE

What is Easter to me and others?

- What signs of spring can I find?
- Spring in to life
- Recognising and describing special times or events for family or friends
- Recognising Easter as a Christian Celebration

Communication and Language

Listening, Attention and Understanding

- Responding to simple instructions e.g. to get or put away an object
- Showing an understanding of prepositions such as 'under', 'on top', 'behind' by carrying out an action / choosing the correct picture
- Understanding use of objects e.g. "What do we use to cut things?"
- Beginning to understand 'why' and 'how' questions about minibests
- Able to follow directions if not intently focused on own choice of activity

Speaking

- Using intonations, rhythm and phrasing to make the meaning clear to others
- Retelling a simple past event/story in the correct order e.g. went down slide, hurt finger.
- Using a range of tenses e.g. play, playing, played
- Beginning to use more complex sentences to link thoughts e.g. using and/because
- Using talk to connect ideas, explain what is happening and anticipating what might happen next, recall and reliving past experiences