



Nursery Class Information

Spring Term 1 2026

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. We are also excited to welcome our new January starters and their families. We know that our Nursery children and staff team will help them to settle in and make new friends before you know it! Our children also take part in our Spring term 'Parklands Experience', an opportunity to be curious, explore, try new things, and experience awe and wonder. This term we will be improving our school grounds by planting new bulbs and sprucing up our planters!

We are starting our Spring Term 1 with our topic 'Once Upon a Time'. 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 our topic will be based around Traditional Tales! We will lose our imagination in the following books: 'The Three Little Pigs', 'The Gingerbread Man', 'Jack and the Beanstalk', 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff', 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.

Baking & Cooking

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated £4 towards our baking and cooking sessions. The children thoroughly enjoyed these weekly sessions last term, with all children accessing this opportunity throughout the week. This term we look forward to making story themed creations such as Gingerbread Men, soup, porridge and much more! We will leave the baking donations pot on the self-registration table at the start of term.

☀ Chatterbooks / Reading Books ☀

Sharing stories unlocks a world of imagination and provides an essential opportunity to develop new vocabulary.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR CHILD'S READING BOOKS TO THE YELLOW TRAY WHEN YOU ARE READY FOR THEM TO BE CHANGED. We aim to change books once per week when children have had an opportunity to share them a few times. Please sign your child's Reading Record each week and they will then be able to progress up the Reading Rainbow 🌈.

'Safe' Parklands Person

This half term we will be helping the children to think about how they can be a SAFE 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 a SAFE Parklands Person!



Spring Term 1 in Nursery



Literacy

Phase 1 Phonics

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

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

This term, we will name 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.



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
- Counting sets with 1:1 correspondence to 5
- Subitising numbers 2, 3 and 4
- Recognising numerals 1, 2, 3, 4
- Beginning to recognise and describe circles, triangles and squares.

Understanding the World

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

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

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 some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects
- Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time
- Showing care and concern for living things and the environment

Physical Development

Fine Motor – Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle

Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle uses dance and large movements to help children develop the fine muscle control they need for writing. They will learn a new gross motor movement to a piece of music whilst holding 'flappers' (small squares of fabric) whilst dancing along to the music following the teacher's instructions.

Gross Motor

This term we look forward to going in the hall for a weekly PE / Dance session. We will be sure to post observations of our skills on Tapestry. We will also practise:

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

Expressive Arts and Design

We will continue to share our weekly nursery rhymes and these will be posted to share at home on Class Dojo.

Creating with Materials

- Experimenting with blocks of colour and marks
- Understand that lines can be used to enclose shape

Being Imaginative

- Join in singing favourite songs
- Creating sounds by banging, shaking, tapping or blowing
- Showing an interest in the way musical instruments sound

Tapestry



Thank you so much for all your posts of learning at home, particularly in response to our weekly Friday Challenge. We are always so impressed with how well the children talk about their photographs back in Nursery. Please do 'like' / 'comment' on our weekly posts so we know that they have been seen.

RE

How do I and other people celebrate?

- What celebrations do I know about and celebrate?
- Chinese New Year (A story from China)
- Persian New Year (A Nowruz story)
- Holi (A Sanatani Festival)

Communication and Language

Listening, Attention and Understanding

- Listening to others in small groups,
- Able to follow directions if not intently focused on own choice of activity
- Showing an understanding of 'under', 'on top', 'behind'
- Responding to simple instructions e.g. to get or put away an object

Speaking

- Using vocabulary focused on objects and people known to them
- Building up vocabulary that reflects their experiences
- Retelling a simple past event in correct order e.g. went down slide, hurt finger

Class Dojo

We hope you have found our updates on Class Dojo useful and informative. We will continue to post news and reminders throughout the term. Please could all Nursery absences please be Shared with the School Office in addition to ClassDojo, just in case we don't get to read these during school time.



ClassDojo