

# Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum Newsletter - Autumn 2023

A big 'Well Done' to all of our new starters this term in Nursery and to our new Reception cohort. You have settled so well!



## Key dates for your diary:

Wednesday 20th September - Welcome Meetings (Nursery 11:00am/2:30pm and Reception 9:00am)

Tuesday 10th October - Mental Health Awareness Day

Tuesday 17th October - Individual photographs

w.b. 23rd October - Reception visiting Gornal Library

w.b. 30th October - Half Term week

Wednesday 8th November - Reception visiting church

Monday 13th November - Odd sock day (Anti-bullying week)

Thursday 16th November - Nursery Rhyme Showcase (Nursery) 11:00am/2:30pm

Friday 17th November - Children in Need

w.b. 20th November - Road Safety team in school

Tuesday 28th November - Flu vaccinations

Wednesday 29th November - Reception Xmas craft event with parents 2:15pm

Friday 1st December - Nursery trip to Adventure Street

Tuesday 5th, 12th and 19th December - Nursery craft club (after school)

Wednesday 6th December - Nursery Christmas singalong 11:00am/2:30pm

Wednesday 6th December - Reception Nativity 9:15am/2:45pm (in school)

Friday 22nd December - Christmas Jumper Day/End of term

**It will be Christmas before we know it!**

## Early Years staff

Nursery Teacher: Mrs Horton

Also working in Nursery: Mrs Cooper, Miss Lewis, Miss Brittle and Miss Blackwell

Reception Teachers RHW: Miss Hall (Mond/Tues) and Mrs Williams (Wed/Thurs/Fri)

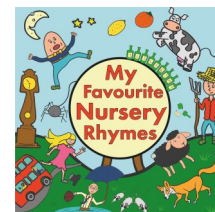
Reception Teacher RM: Miss Moulton

Also working in Reception: Mrs Aubrey, Mrs Pinson, Mrs Cartwright, Miss Teitge and Mrs Sidaway

## New Topics!

### Nursery - Nursery Rhymes

This term in Nursery, we are going to be learning lots of different Nursery Rhymes and doing activities that support our learning of these rhymes. We will also be learning some number rhymes too.



### Reception - Traditional Tales

This term in Reception, we are learning lots of traditional tales. Our main texts will be; 'The Gingerbread Man' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We will be focussing on retelling stories.



### Reading

We visit the school library once per week and take a book home to share for enjoyment

School library days - Nursery: Monday

- Reception: Wednesday

Reception children will also receive one school reading book per week which will be issued on Mondays. This will begin once children are able to blend to read.

## Learning in Early Years

In Nursery and Reception, most of our learning takes place through play. The areas within our classrooms and outdoors are continually enhanced to ensure that children have access to a variety of resources and to give opportunities for lots of learning to take place. This can include; role play, malleable play (dough), construction, mark making, physical activities, creative activities... the list goes on!

Children also complete daily activities with an adult. These activities help to develop our learning further and allow adults time to assess children's understanding which helps us to plan for future learning opportunities.

### What does my child need?

As the weather changes and becomes cooler, please ensure your child is sent to school with appropriate clothing (a warm coat, scarves/hats/gloves when needed). Please ensure all items are named. It would be useful for your child to practise putting on these clothing items independently.



Your child should also bring a named bottle of water to school. No fizzy drinks allowed.



Please could you ensure your child has a small bag of spare clothes in case of accidents (including messy play!) This can remain in school on your child's peg.



Reception will have PE on Wednesdays. They should come to school in PE kit on this day.

We enjoy learning outdoors at school and have the opportunity to explore outdoors every day. We have mud kitchens, sand and water outdoors so to protect our clothing, we encourage children to wear waterproof suits and wellies. We do have a selection of these in school, but if your child has their own all-in-one waterproof suit they would prefer to wear, please ensure it is named and it can be left on their peg.



If your child has their own wellies, these can also be left in school. Again, please ensure they are named.

### Literacy

#### **Nursery:**

Children will be encouraged to read for pleasure during their 'COOL time' (Choosing Our Own Learning). They will also visit our school library every week. They will be practising recognising their own name and have lots of opportunities to mark make. They will listen to lots of stories and be encouraged to talk about these in small groups. They will also be given lots of opportunity for role play so that they can re-enact their favourite stories and develop communication skills. The main texts in Nursery are 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'Rosie's Walk'.

#### **Reception:**

Children will learn to follow text in books, listen to and recognise sounds in words and blend to read some simple words. They will also learn to write their name, letters of the alphabet and will begin to write some simple words. We will be reading many Traditional Tales and using actions and props to retell stories.

### Maths

#### **Nursery:**

Children will learn lots of number songs & rhymes and be encouraged to join in. Children will be practising counting at every opportunity and encouraged to look for numbers in their environment.

Children will be exploring colour, matching and sorting and begin to look at patterns and some 2D shapes.

#### **Reception:**

Reception will also be singing lots of number songs and encouraged to join in with the actions. Children will be matching, sorting and comparing.

Children will also be looking in more detail at numbers to 5 and exploring 2D shapes. We will begin to look at patterns in the environment and try to recreate our own repeating patterns. Children will also talk about measure.



We use Evidence Me to record your child's learning in school. You can access this online or by downloading the app from the Google Play or the App store and signing up via the link we send you.

Every Monday, you will receive a weekly update with key information for the week and any observations of your child from the previous week.

Don't forget... You can add photo/video observations to your child's learning journey using Evidence Me. We love to see the experiences the children have outside of school!

Please make sure you are signed up! Speak to a member of the Early Years team if you are having any difficulties.