



# NURSERY NEWSLETTER

## Pentecost Newsletter from your Nursery Team

It is hard to believe we are in our final term of the year. The children have come back from the Easter holidays looking like they have grown so much. They are ready for the exciting challenges we have planned. Let's get the summer vibes rolling!

### *Pentecost 1 Traditional Tales*



We are diving straight in with some classics! The Gingerbread Man, The 3 Billy Goats Gruff and Goldilocks and the 3 Bears. We will look at a variety of versions, even

Mrs Dickson's from when she was 4 years old! We will look at how the books and illustrations have changed over time. We will be working on our story telling skills and really thinking about the characters and morals of each text. We can not wait for the debates and discussions.

To celebrate our love of stories, your child might come home with an empty bag. This is our 'special story bag'. Please encourage your child to choose one story that we can read in Nursery. We can't wait to share some of your favourite books.



Our butterfly children will be bringing home a reading book with no words. This is to help you, as a family establish a regular reading routine in preparation for Reception.

*RE*



We will be hearing the stories of The Ascension and Pentecost, exploring the wind outside with ribbons, scarves and bubbles. We will also be learning about what it is like to celebrate in a church community and what jobs need to be done! Our Old Testament Bible Story for the half term is Noah's Ark.

### *Writing*

We are now fantastic at drawing an array of lines, curves, zig zags and shapes. We are going to combine our story knowledge and drawing skills to create story maps. We will also be using our sound mats to have a go at labelling them too. We can not wait to showcase these in our Nursery.

### *5 Little Ducks went swimming one day*

We will learn the rhyme word for word and explore lots of counting skills including subitising and careful counting up to 5. We will spend time exploring



numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numerals up to 5 and predicting the calculations when the amount of ducks decrease.

We will also be learning to play shape bingo! We are going to identify shapes by their straight and curved sides.

### *Design and Technology*

We will be learning a lot about materials this half term. We are going to bake Gingerbreads! Yum yum! We will also have a go at making boats. This will help us learn about the properties of plastic and cardboard and learn that some materials are not waterproof!

### *Music*



We have become very skilled at playing a variety of percussions instruments. We are now going to extend our thinking and match sounds to traditional tale characters by changing the speed and tempo. We can't wait to hear the sounds for the Troll!

### *Planting*

Spring is the perfect time for us to get green fingers! We are going grow some sunflowers. Can we grow them as tall as all the children? That is our mission! We will observe the changes and monitor the growth. We are also going to grow some delicious tomatoes and cucumbers! We cannot wait to taste them!



## Pentecost 2

### The final chapter for our butterflies!

We are so proud of our butterfly children and how much they have achieved! We are going to really focus on our children being Reception ready. We will kick start the half term by reading the Supertato books. We will be courageous like Supertato and his friends and focus on how we can approach new challenges and change with confidence!



### OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)

We will follow the OPAL map and explore all the OPAL zones. We will be spending some time navigating our amazing playgrounds– the giant sand pit, field, mud café, the orchard and the wheels.



### Reception visits

The children will be visiting their new classes and teachers. More information on this will follow. Please note all visits will be carried out during Nursery hours.

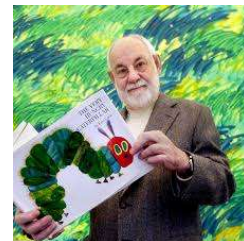
### RE

In the last half term, we will learn that we are Christian, but there are other faiths around the world. We will learn that Jesus was Jewish and that the Jewish faith has special festivals. We will also be listening to our final Old Testament Bible story: Jonah and the Whale



### Eric Carle

The author we will be learning about is Eric Carle. We will look at his styles of writing and focus on the texts about minibeasts. We will learn about the life cycle of a butterfly and compare this to the changes and growth of our children in Nursery.



### Minibeasts

We will be exploring God's smallest creatures by visiting our school grounds to find out about all the minibeasts that live at school. We will learn key facts about their bodies, habitats and life cycles. We will make comparisons and ensure we keep them safe. We will make the best bug hotel the Good Shepherd has ever seen!

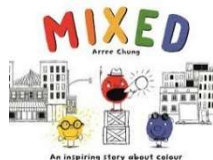


### Name writing

We will encourage all children to write their names as best they can. This will be a great skill to take into their Reception classes. We will practise name writing in lots of fun ways.

### Colour mixing

We will get our creative juices flowing and explore colour mixing. We will look at what happens when we mix the primary colours. It will be so exciting to tell our friends what colours we made!



### Sounds – Write

Our children will begin to learn letter sounds. We will provide more information on this closer to the time.



### Dates for your diary:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May – bank holiday, Nursery closed

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – INSET day, Nursery closed

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May – half term, Nursery closed

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 6-7pm in the hall – meeting for parents with children starting Reception at the GSA

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 3.30pm -summer fayre

Sports day and trip to Wheelgate – dates TBC