



Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to welcome you and your children back to Term 5. This term the children will be focusing on a topic called 'Into the Woods'. We will be discussing plants and how they grow, looking at animal habitats and thinking about how we can look after the environment. We will be using our 'senses' to explore things in our local environment.

The children will also be encouraged to think about how things work and to try to answer 'why' questions.

As part of developing their understanding of plants, the children will have an opportunity to plant seeds and bulbs and observe what happens. The children will also start exploring with water and investigate which objects float or sink.

As part of our learning, we will be reading a wide variety of texts. Some of the books we will be reading are: Postman Bear, Little Rabbit Foo Foo, We're going On a Bear Hunt, The Woods, Tidy and The Gruffalo.

Spring planting

If you have any spare bulbs, seeds or compost that you are no longer using then please bring them in for the children to use in the pre-school. The children will really enjoy planting things and watching them grow. We planted some sunflower seeds and beans last term and when looking at the seeds now, we have found that they seem to have sprouted.

Reading

Don't forget that you can borrow a reading book to take home at any time you wish to. We have a lending library with a range of lovely books for you all to borrow just inside the door. Please ensure you take good care of the book and return it once it has been read. It is important that you read with your child every day. Please write a short note in your child's book diary to let us know that you have read the book. You could:

- Model being a reader to them. You are their heroes; if they see you reading they will copy!
- Support your child to retell a familiar story. Talk to your child about what happens in the beginning, middle and end.
- Ask your child how the characters may be feeling in a book.

Phonics

The children really enjoy singing nursery rhymes daily. Please encourage them to sing at home as well. The children will be familiar with the following songs:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/#tabnametabNurseryRhymes-Videos>

You could also:

- Talk to your child about the first sound in a word. For example apple starts with an 'a'.
- Talk to your child about rhyming words. Can they think of any words that rhyme with their name?
- Can they count the amount of 'syllables' in words?

If you would like more information on how the children learn phonics please follow the link:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/#tabnametabSupportForPhonics>



Mathematics

This term we will be covering:

- Using position words to say where an object is - for example, "The bag is under the table,".
- Describing a familiar route.
- We will also begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as "first, next, then, after".
- Learning about 2D and 3D shapes.

You could also:

- Spot 2D and 3D shapes in the environment.
- Count forwards and backwards, or show amounts using fingers.
- Sequence events during the day for example, what does your child do first thing in the morning, then next and last?

Please use the following link to access number songs at home:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-counting-songs/zn67kmn>

Forest School sessions and PE

The children will recommence their Forest School sessions on Friday mornings. The children will be going to the allotment every other week. Please send your child into school Forest School ready with a puddle suit/ waterproof clothing and wellies. Please also pack a change of clothes and shoes; as muddy wellies cannot be worn inside. A spare carrier bag is also essential for muddy items. Please ensure all items are named.

The children's PE lesson will be on a Wednesday morning. Please ensure children wear a tracksuit and trainers.

Super Star Stories and WOW moments

This term we will be sending home a Super Star story. Please fill this in with your child and send it back to us. We use the information on these to help with our planning. Children learn best when following their own interests and we strive to provide engaging and personalised learning experiences for the children.

We will also be sending home your child's next steps and some WOW moment cards. We would love you to share any WOW experiences that the children have had at home and hear about them achieving their next steps.

Thank you for your support,

The Pre-school staff