

TERMLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026

Adult-Initiated Focus

Spring 1: Going on an Adventure!

This half term, our topic is Going on an Adventure! Children in Nursery and Reception will explore stories about journeys, use maps, and take part in imaginative adventures indoors and outdoors.

We'll be developing language skills through storytelling and rhyme, building confidence in following instructions, and learning how to stay safe when out and about.

Children will enjoy creating adventure scenes, acting out stories, and investigating winter weather changes.

Spring 2: At the Farm!

Next half term, our topic will be At the Farm!

We'll learn about different farm animals, how they grow, and the important jobs people do on a farm.

Children will explore life cycles, take part in planting and growing activities, and enjoy farm-themed stories, songs, and role play.

We'll also use maths, art, and outdoor learning to help us understand what life is like on a real farm.



We have planned our learning journey together, sharing our ideas about the exciting things that we would like to learn more about.



CLASS SUCCESS!

Well done to all our Nursery and Reception children for a fantastic first term. Their progress has been amazing! We're so proud of their wonderful Nativity and congratulate those who filled their sticker chart and earned their reading certificates.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Please upload any home learning to your child's profile on Class Dojo so we can celebrate it in school.

Don't forget to share any WOW moments at home – big or small! We love seeing the children's achievements and adding them to their learning journey.

We will also be taking part in the RSPB Big Bird Watch during our Forest Friday sessions, giving the children a chance to observe wildlife and learn about the birds in our local environment.



- We will be learning through the seven areas of our curriculum. Here are some examples of the things that we will be doing.

Reception

Nursery

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Learning how to stay safe when out and about and around animals.
- Understanding responsibilities, such as caring for plants or class pets.
- Working cooperatively during role play and team challenges.
 - Developing confidence and independence during new experiences.

Communication and Language

- Asking and answering "how" and "why" questions about stories.
 - Using adventurous vocabulary and "wow words".
 - Retelling stories with detail and expression.
- Discussing journeys, weather changes and life on the farm.

Physical Development

- Completing adventure obstacle courses and team games.
- Strengthening fine motor skills through cutting, weaving and writing tasks.
- Practising safe tool use in creative and role-play activities.
 - Moving confidently in PE through dance, throwing and aiming games.

Literacy

- Writing for different purposes—maps, tickets, signs, labels and lists.
- Using phonics to read and write adventure and farm words.
- Writing simple sentences with capital letters and full stops.
- Exploring and retelling texts such as Naughty Bus, Train Ride and farm stories.

Mathematics

- Using positional language in map work (over the bridge, under the gate).
- Comparing groups of animals and solving simple number problems.
- Ordering events in a journey or farm day.

- Exploring early addition and subtraction through stories.

Understanding the World

- Using simple maps and symbols to represent journeys.
- Learning about different environments—town, countryside, Arctic, farm.
- Exploring life cycles, including chicks, lambs and seeds.
- Finding out about people who work on farms and in the community.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Creating landscapes inspired by Famous St and farm scenes.
- Building imaginative stories with props, small-world worlds and role play.
- Making farm structures such as barns, tractors and enclosures.
- Performing rhymes, dances and songs inspired by adventures and animals.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Learning how to keep safe on our adventures and around animals.
- Understanding who helps us and how to ask for help.
- Talking about our feelings during new experiences.
 - Taking turns and sharing during adventure and farm play.

Communication and Language

- Singing adventure and farm songs and rhymes.
- Retelling simple stories using pictures and props.
- Following 2-part instructions during games and activities.
- Using new words linked to journeys, weather, and farm animals.

Physical Development

- Moving in different ways—climbing, crawling, balancing and animal movements.
- Using tools carefully: scoops, brushes, and mark-making tools.
 - Strengthening fine motor skills through threading, dough work and small-world play.

Literacy

- Sequencing 2–3 events from stories.
- Predicting what happens next using pictures.
 - Noticing story language and new vocabulary (tractor, map, snow, lamb).
 - Listening carefully to stories about adventures and farm life.

Mathematics

- Counting animals and objects to 3.
- Exploring simple patterns (cow–pig–cow–pig).
- Using positional words (in, under, next to).
- Sorting animals and objects by size and type.

Understanding the World

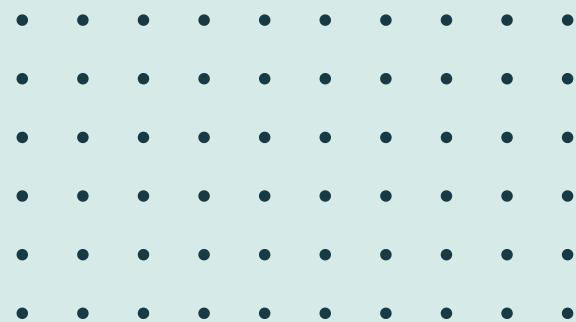
- Exploring winter weather—ice, frost and melting.
- Learning about farm animals and their babies.
 - Going on simple "adventures" outdoors to observe nature.
 - Using simple maps in play and noticing features of our environment.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Creating adventure and farm pictures using different materials.
- Acting out stories with small-world animals and explorers.
- Moving to music and copying animal and journey actions.
- Building barns, tractors and adventure scenes.

Areas of Focus

- Animals and their young
- Farm Animals
- Journeys
- Maps
- Positional Language
- Our Local Area



OPTIONAL HOME LEARNING

Go on a short walk and create a simple map of the route.

Look at different types of transport while out and about

Read or retell a favourite journey story at home.

Visit a local farm or look at pictures/videos of farm animals together