

Nursery Newsletter Autumn 2024/2025

Welcome to Nursery!

Welcome to Nursery, we are very excited for our lovely term ahead and look forward to getting know you all. We have a new team in Early Years this year and I would like to introduce you to the wonderful staff that will be working with your children. As always, we are always here to listen, care and offer support when needed, so please come and talk to us when you have a query or concern. Our main priority is the happiness and wellbeing of your children, and we look forward to creating exciting, magical and adventurous experiences every day!

Across Early Years is myself, **Mrs Marsh**, as the Early Years Lead. I will be overseeing both Nursery and Reception and look forward to getting know you all as the year progresses. I am also teaching in Mighty Oaks with our 30-hour children.

Mrs Skilbeck is the class teacher in Mighty Oaks for our morning children and I'm sure you will all be excited to see her smiley face again.

Mrs Donnelly is our Higher-Level Teaching Assistant and will be working with myself in Might Oaks with our 30-hour children. Mrs Donnelly will also be working closely with our families to support our new starters, arranging home visits and ensuring a smooth transition into Nursery.

Mrs Wilson is our Teaching Assistant in Mighty Oaks with our morning children, and we are very lucky to then have Mrs Wilson in Mighty Oaks on an afternoon with our 30-hour children.

Mrs Draper is our Teaching Assistant in Little Acorns with our two-year-old children.

Mrs Owens is our Teaching Assistant in Little Acorns with our two-year-old children.

We are also very lucky to have **Miss Atkinson**, our new apprentice working with all our children across Nursery.

We would like to take this opportunity to share with you how incredibly proud we are of your children! They are settling into Nursery amazingly and we are delighted with the progress that they have made in such a small amount of time. We will continue to work with them on general classroom expectations and help them to feel settled in their new environment.

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Values:	<p>We have weekly carpet times based on our school values and certificates will be sent home to praise children demonstrating them. Our Pentland values are; Kindness, Hardworking, Resilience, Confidence and Independence. We are focussing on embedding new routines and expectations in the environment. Where possible at home could you support staff by encouraging children to be independent, take care of their toys and tidy up when they are finished.</p>
Dates for the Diary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show and tell baby pictures, WB. Monday 23rd September - Please send in a picture of your child as a baby to discuss in class.• Making vegetable soup in Nursery, WB 7th October (any dietary needs that we are unaware of please inform staff)• Food bank, WC 7th October - Nursery will be collecting donations.• Wednesday 16th October - Autumn stay and play for Little Acorns• Thursday 17th October - Harvest Festival performance for Mighty Oaks and Reception children.• Break up for half term: Friday 25th October
What your child needs:	<p>For your child to be able to access outdoor areas of play in all weathers, please ensure your child comes to school wearing a labelled active uniform and suitable footwear. As we approaching Autumn, this should include a coat and a pair of extra wellies that can be kept in school. Children should also have a bag with a clean change of clothes and a drink. We are a healthy school and promote healthy eating as much as we can with a daily snack of fruit and milk. Please could you provide a labelled bottle of water daily and a healthy packed lunch. There are some ideas on the NHS website. https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/</p>
Drop off and Collection:	<p>On a morning Nursery gates open at 8:50am and close at 9am. Please walk your child to the blue gate and a teacher will then greet them and support your child to walk into their classroom independently. Please can we ask that you stay behind the blue gate until the teacher is there to ensure the safety of all children.</p> <p>For morning children, gates will reopen at 11:50am and close at 12pm promptly. Please can you ensure you are on time to collect your child as staff will be required for lunch time duties.</p> <p>For children staying all day, the gates will open at 14:50pm and close at 3pm. Again, we would appreciate your punctuality with this.</p> <p>A gentle reminder that dogs are not allowed on school premises and therefore need to stay behind the big green gates at drop off and collection.</p>

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Reading

The children will have daily Read Write Inc Phonics lessons including Fred talk games, rhyme time sessions with nursery rhymes and poems and lots of quality stories. The children will be learning that print has meaning.

Some of our key texts and rhymes this half term are:

- All our Welcome
- The Colour Monster
- How to make a rainbow
- Leaf hunt
- Little Red Hen
- The Scarecrows Wedding
- Miss Polly had a dolly
- Dingle Dangle Scarecrow

Writing

Children will take part in lots of different mark making activities and letter practise. Some children will be focusing on writing their own name

Maths

Children will sing number rhymes and practise finger actions for counting. They will be taught to subitise numbers up to 3. **Subitising** is knowing how many there are without touch counting. For example, there are 3 dots on the dice.

Settling in

Who I am/My family

Autumn/Harvest

Physical Development

The children will be learning how to negotiate space and obstacles safely with the consideration of themselves and others. They will be practising and developing their running, climbing, balancing and coordination skills.

Understanding the World

Children will be drawing self-portraits, learning about their body parts and investigating differences between each other, such as eye colour.

They will look and compare pictures of themselves as babies and have a visit from a parent and baby.

They will also look at the changing seasons and investigate what they can see, hear, touch and smell in Autumn. They will visit the main school wildlife area on an Autumn Walk.

Expressive Art and Design

Children will explore colour and experiment how to make marks in different ways and with different materials. We also explore how colours make us feel and make links to music.