

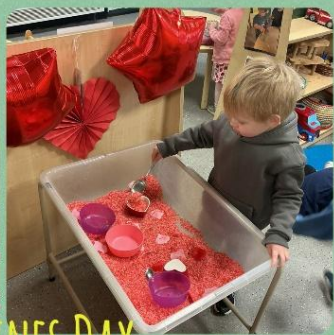
Spring Term - Nursery

Our topics this term have been 'Journeys' and 'Growth and Change'. As part of this learning, we were delighted to welcome duck eggs into the classroom and observe the ducklings as they hatched and grew. The children loved holding the ducklings and watching them swim in our water tray, which brought their learning to life.

We used *The Ugly Duckling* and the rhyming story *Duck in a Truck* as stimulus for our learning, alongside a selection of Spring-themed stories. We began the term by exploring *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, focusing on prepositions within the story and even going on our own bear hunt in the forest. We then went on to explore *Handa's Surprise*, linking the story to our topic and developing vocabulary.

Throughout the term, we have also celebrated Mother's Day and Easter and have enjoyed accessing Forest School on a weekly basis, supporting the children's curiosity, independence, and understanding of the natural world.





HANDAS SURPRISE





Communication and Language

To support the development of our communication and language skills, we have been learning a range of familiar nursery rhymes, including *Humpty Dumpty*, *This Little Piggy*, and *Miss Polly Had a Dolly*. We also revisited rhymes learned in previous terms to build confidence and reinforce understanding. Some children have taken part in our language intervention programme, **WellComm**, to further develop their language comprehension and expressive skills.

Each morning, the children have opportunities to speak in front of the class by sharing their news, helping them to extend their vocabulary, improve listening skills, and develop confidence when speaking to others. The *Duck in a Truck* stories have supported our learning about rhyme, with the children enjoying anticipating the rhyming words in related books from the series, including *Fix It Duck*, *Captain Duck*, and *Duck to the Rescue*.

PSED

This half term, we have been learning about how to keep ourselves safe. We talked about the different people in our lives who help to keep us safe and explored the roles of people who help us in our community, which we called our 'real-life superheroes'. We enjoyed lots of discussion about how these people help us and shared our own experiences of when we may have needed their support.

We have also been learning about lifecycles, looking at the stages of growth in ourselves, ducks, and other animals that lay eggs.

To finish the half term, we explored our class value of 'Love'. We shared a variety of stories about the people we love, baked biscuits for someone special, and enjoyed a lovely Valentine's Stay and Play session together.

Physical Development

We have begun weekly dance sessions with Miss Rebecca in the school hall, where the children are developing a range of footwork skills. Outside on the playground, we have been practising ball control and learning to take turns through a variety of games, including working together when using the parachute.

We are also taking part in daily Phonics sessions, where the children practise their letter sounds and develop their writing skills. A key focus has been holding their pens correctly to form recognisable letters. The children thoroughly enjoy this time and are making fantastic progress, particularly in writing their names independently.





Literacy

Over the term, we have enjoyed sharing a range of well-loved stories, including *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, *Handa's Surprise*, *Guess How Much I Love You*, and *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. To celebrate National Storytelling Week, we spent a whole week exploring traditional tales, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Alongside these stories, we also shared books linked to the seasons, with a particular focus on Spring and Easter.

Maths

We have enjoyed learning a variety of number rhymes to support our counting skills. We explored the story of *The Three Little Pigs* to reinforce numbers to 3 and beyond, while also comparing different sizes and retelling the story through role play in the tuff tray to support recall and understanding.

The children also explored different textures through creative activities, including painting using straws. They built structures using a range of materials, including foam as "cement" to help blocks stick together, encouraging problem-solving and teamwork.

We have been developing our number skills by accurately counting objects and are beginning to subitise numbers to 5. The children have also learned about some 2D and 3D shapes and explored simple patterns, practising how to continue these independently.

Understanding the World

This half term, we have been focusing on growth and lifecycles, exploring what living things need in order to grow. We went on a Spring Hunt around the school grounds to look for signs of the new season and enjoyed talking about the changes we could see. The children also learned about how Easter is celebrated around the world and took part in activities to celebrate Mother's Day.

Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

We explored the work of artists Mark Rothko and Piet Mondrian and recreated our own versions of their artwork. The children also built bridges inspired by architect Michael Jantzen, developing their creativity and problem-solving skills. We took part in a range of craft activities, experimenting with paint, collage, and silhouettes.

In music, we learned many songs and explored percussion instruments to keep a steady beat. The children began to follow simple symbols to play loudly, quietly, and to stop, helping to develop their listening skills and musical understanding.





Yes Day



PIC • COLLAGE