

The Nest team are excited to welcome all children into nursery this half term both our new joiners and those who were with us last year. We are looking forward to getting to know all the children over the next few weeks.

What's on this half term:

All About Me:

Our 'All About Me' theme is all about getting to know each of our wonderful two and three year olds and helping them feel happy, safe and secure as they settle into Nursery. We will spend lots of time building warm relationships, exploring our new environment and getting to know our friends and the adults who care for us.

Through familiar stories, songs, rhymes, sensory experiences, creative activities and lots of opportunities for play, we will explore what makes each of us special and unique. We will talk about our names, families, favourite things, feelings and the things we enjoy doing.

Most importantly, this theme will help the children develop a strong sense of belonging, confidence and independence as they begin to feel at home in our Nursery. We will celebrate every child's individual personality, interests and achievements as they take their first steps on their exciting learning journey with us.

We are looking forward to getting to know all of our marvellous little people! 🧡

Communication and Language:

Children will be developing their early communication skills by exploring sounds, copying familiar words and expressions, and beginning to use sounds and words to communicate their needs and interests. They will be encouraged to listen and respond when adults speak to them, use pointing, eye contact and gestures to share their ideas, and begin to understand familiar words in everyday situations. Through songs, rhymes, music, stories and playful interactions, children will have lots of opportunities to build their understanding, confidence and enjoyment of communicating with others.

Physical Development:

Children will be developing their gross and fine motor skills through a wide range of active and exploratory experiences. They will be strengthening their hand and finger control as they manipulate objects, make spontaneous marks using crayons and pencils, turn knobs and begin to build small towers. Children will also be developing their balance, coordination and core strength as they move around their environment, reaching for and picking up objects, squatting, pulling themselves to standing and using furniture or an adult for support when needed. Through playful opportunities to move, explore and create, children will build confidence and increasing control over their bodies and physical movements.

Physical movement helps build pathways in a young child's brain, linking physical action with mental growth

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

Children will be developing warm and trusting relationships with familiar adults and beginning to form friendships with other children. They will be supported to feel secure and confident as they explore their environment, using familiar adults as a safe base to return to for reassurance when needed. Children will be encouraged to develop their growing independence through everyday routines, including feeding themselves, holding their own cup and making choices about their play. Through responsive relationships and consistent routines, children will develop a strong sense of security, belonging and confidence as they become increasingly comfortable exploring and interacting with the world around them.

Literacy:

Children will be developing a love of books through cosy one-to-one sharing experiences, enjoying familiar stories, pictures and rhymes with adults. They will begin to notice and recognise familiar pictures, signs and symbols and develop an understanding that these can carry meaning.

Mathematics:

Children will begin to develop their early mathematical understanding through playful experiences, songs and finger rhymes that introduce numbers and counting. They will explore small groups of objects and begin to notice when the number of items changes, developing an awareness of 'more' and 'less' through everyday play and routines.

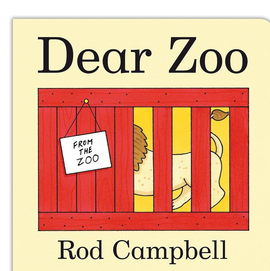
Supporting your child at home

- ★ Talk, Talk, Talk! Chat about what you are doing together, name objects and describe what your child can see, hear and feel. Give them plenty of time to respond.
- ★ Share books and rhymes  Read favourite stories together, sing nursery rhymes and encourage your child to join in with actions, sounds and repeated phrases.
- ★ Make time for active play  Provide opportunities to run, climb, balance, dance and explore outdoors. Activities such as playdough, drawing, building and puzzles also help develop hand and finger strength.

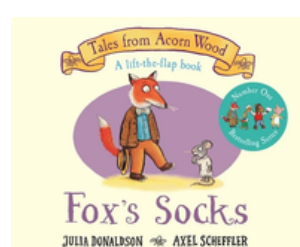
At age two, play is not just a pastime; it is the primary way children explore and understand their world.

Recommended Reads

- ★ Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell



- ★ Fox's Socks by Julia Donaldson



- ★ Meg and Mog by Helen Nicoll



Our Autumn One Nursery Rhymes

Nursery rhymes are a fun way to help children develop language, listening, memory and early phonics skills. Singing together also builds confidence and encourages children to join in, have fun and learn through repetition.

- [Humpty Dumpty](#)
- [The Wheels on the bus](#)
- [Twinkle Twinkle](#)

‘That they may have life; life in all its fullness’ John 10:10