



NURSERY SPRING 1 – WHAT WILL YOUR CHILD LEARN THIS HALF TERM?

Topic: It's Cold Outside

Key Question: How can we keep warm?



LITERACY

Texts:

1. The Snowy Day.
2. The Weather Girls.
3. The Sun and The Wind.

We will be continuing to focus on understanding the five key concepts of print: *Print has meaning. *Print can have different purposes. *We read English text from left to right and from top to bottom. *The names of the different parts of a book. *Page sequencing. These key concepts will develop their language comprehension skills, through discussions about the world around them and the books they listen to. We will also develop their phonological awareness so they can recognise words with the same initial sound.

MATHEMATICS

In Nursery, we aim to develop a strong grounding in number, so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. This term, the children will focus on reciting numbers past 5 through regularly repeating the counting sequence, whilst using their fingers to guide them. We will also encourage the children to talk about and identify the patterns around them. For example, stripes on clothes or designs on materials or mats.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

This term, we will be exploring the theme of Winter as part of our topic learning. The children will take time to explore the outdoors, observing the characteristics of the changing season.

We will promote questioning and discovery, building on the children's prior earth science knowledge. Finally, we will begin to explore the changing states of water into ice and snow and back again.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS & DESIGN

This term, we will continue to provide regular opportunities for engagement with the arts, which enable the children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. The children will practise drawing from their imagination and observations, using increasing detail. They will also continue to take part in simple pretend play in the home corner and sing a variety of nursery rhymes.

Finally, the children will use dance to express themselves freely and creatively.

PERSONAL SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Through exploring the zones of self-regulation, the children will continue to learn how to understand their own feelings and those of others. We will also be celebrating *Children's Mental Health Week*, with a range of activities following their theme of 'Express Yourself'. During this week, the children will learn about mindfulness and different strategies to help them achieve a healthy mind. We will end this week with a Nursery Pyjama Party.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

This term, we will continue to focus on developing their skills for writing, by providing numerous fine motor skills activities, which will strengthen the muscles in their hands, in readiness to put pen to paper.

We will also encourage the children to continue to develop their movement, balancing and ball skills.

Finally, the children will use more large-muscle movements to paint and make marks both indoors and outdoors.



COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE

The Nursery Team will continue to model language that promotes thinking, through the use of open-ended questioning to support this and longer responses.

Using our topic, we will extend our children's vocabulary, explaining unfamiliar or scientific words based around the weather and seasons. We will also encourage the children to use sentences joined with words such as 'because', 'or', 'and'. For example, "I must wear my coat because it is cold outside".

PHONICS SOUNDS & TRICKY WORDS

This term, we will be introducing Phase 1, Aspects 4 and 5 of *Letters & Sounds*. These focus on rhythm and rhyme and alliteration and aim to develop the children's awareness of sounds and rhythms.

We will also continue to learn and practise the letter sounds through our weekly sound exploration tray.