

<p><u>Literacy</u></p> <p><u>Reading</u> This term, the children will explore the story <i>Titch</i> by Pat Hutchins as part of their 'Talk for Writing' journey. They will begin learning to retell the story using actions and spoken language, helping them build confidence as storytellers. They will also have the chance to sequence the story using picture cards, supporting their understanding of narrative structure. Each morning, the children will be encouraged to recognise their own names as part of the daily routine. We will share a variety of stories together every day, and children will be invited to explore books independently in the reading area. Additionally, they will have the opportunity to enjoy listening to stories on the CD player, fostering a love for reading in different formats.</p> <p>Each week, your child will be able to choose a book from our reading area to take home in their book bag and enjoy with you and other family members. We will be chatting with the</p>	<p><u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u></p> <p><u>Sense of Self</u> This half term, our key priority is to support children in developing confidence, independence, and focus during their time in Nursery. As many children are new to the setting, we will provide gentle guidance and encouragement to help them settle into daily routines. Children will be supported in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separating from their main carer with reassurance from a familiar adult • Hanging up their coats and placing book bags in the correct place • Finding and recognising their names for self-registration 	<p><u>Communication and Language</u></p> <p><u>Listening, attention and understanding</u>: Children will be encouraged to listen to and join in with a wide variety of stories, nursery rhymes, and poems linked to our learning theme. These activities will support language development, rhythm, and early literacy skills. We will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing active listening skills • Taking turns in conversations and group discussions • Speaking in full sentences to express ideas and feelings 	<p><u>Maths</u></p> <p><u>Number</u>: We shall be counting and comparing small groups of objects and matching the total to its corresponding digit. Children will be beginning to recognise digits 1-5 and then 6-10, and beyond. Children will learn to order numerals on a number line. They will be encouraged to sort and count a range of objects according to chosen properties including colour, size and shape and begin some simple problem-solving activities. You can encourage your children to develop their mathematical thinking by looking out for numbers and shapes in the environment and talking to your child about them. Get your child to help with simple activities such as laying the table and shopping, give them simple problems to solve.</p>
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<p>children about the books they have read, so it is helpful for us to know they have had a chance to share it at home. Your child can decide whether they would like to keep the same book for another week or swap it for a new one. If time allows, we will also try to read the book together in class. To help us keep everything running smoothly, please ensure both the book and the reading record sheet are returned in your child's book bag by Thursday. This will allow them to choose a new book for the following week.</p> <p>Writing: We are encouraging the children to explore mark making using a wide range of tools such as pencils, paint, chalks, and wax crayons. They will be experimenting on different surfaces including paper, whiteboards, post it notes, and even sand! As they create, we will be supporting them to talk about the meaning behind their marks, helping them develop early communication and writing skills. You can support this at home by inviting your child to make marks and asking them to explain what their marks represent. Sharing your own writing with them—whether it is a shopping list or a note—can also help them see the value of writing in everyday life. This half term, we will be learning two new nursery rhymes using Makaton actions, following the Little Wandle scheme. Our focus rhymes will be <i>Incy Wincy Spider</i> and <i>Miss Polly Had a Dolly</i>. Please ask your child about these rhymes and enjoy singing them together at home—it is a lovely way to reinforce their learning and build confidence.</p> <p>We will be following the <i>Little Wandle's Foundation for Phonics</i> programme, with daily group activities designed to develop the children's listening and attention skills. The children will begin with Phase One, which focuses on general sound and speech discrimination, rhythm, and rhyme.</p>	<p>These routines are designed to build independence and a sense of belonging. Through consistent support and positive relationships, children will begin to approach activities with growing confidence and sustained concentration.</p> <p>Understanding Emotions: At the beginning of this half term, our focus will be on helping children settle confidently into FS1. We will introduce the rules and routines of the setting, supporting each child as they become familiar with their new environment. Children will be encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build relationships with adults and peers • Develop a sense of security and belonging • Engage in daily routines with increasing independence <p>This settling-in period is essential for fostering emotional wellbeing and laying the foundation for confident learning and exploration throughout the term.</p> <p>Making Relationships: As children begin to build relationships with one another, we will focus on developing essential social and communication skills. Children will be supported in learning how to help each other, play cooperatively, share resources, and take turns during group activities. We will also encourage respectful communication by:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging in two-way conversations with adults and peers • Explaining events and following instructions to build independence and school readiness <p>To support all learners, Makaton signs will be used alongside spoken language, helping children to understand and communicate more confidently.</p> <p>Speaking: Throughout the half term, children will be given many opportunities to take part in speaking, listening, and turn-taking games within their small groups. These activities will help them build relationships, develop confidence, and strengthen their communication skills. Small group games will support children in getting to know one another and encourage them to speak in front of their friends and teachers in a relaxed and supportive environment. Children will also have opportunities to practise speaking, listening, and turn-taking during pretend play, particularly in our role play areas. These experiences will promote expressive language, social interaction, and collaborative</p>	<p>Expressive Arts and Design</p> <p>Creating with Materials: We will be learning to use a range of techniques including painting, printing, collage, sticking and making models, giving the children plenty of opportunity to work with a wide range of art media as well as practising using a variety of tools.</p> <p>Being Imaginative and Expressive: Children will be given a wide range of opportunities to develop their imagination through both indoor and outdoor role play. The indoor domestic role play area will be enhanced with topic-related resources to support small group interaction and imaginative play. Outdoors, a themed role play space will encourage creativity and collaboration, allowing children to explore props and settings linked to our current topic. Through these experiences, children will be supported in developing important social skills such as sharing, turn-taking, and cooperative play. Additionally, we will be introducing a variety of new songs and exploring different percussion instruments to enrich musical learning and self-expression.</p>
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<p>You can support these skills at home by reading stories aloud and singing together. Listening to everyday sounds around the house, such as running water or ticking clocks, can be a fun way to build awareness. Encourage your child to make sounds with their body, like tapping, clapping, or stamping, and explore playful ways to use their voice—whispering, squeaking, or pretending to slide down with a “wheeeee!” or relaxing in a comfy chair with a big “ahhhhh!”</p> <p>These simple and engaging activities help lay the foundation for phonics and early reading.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening attentively to others • Speaking politely and kindly to peers and adults • Expressing thoughts and feelings appropriately <p>To further support communication and understanding, we will introduce and use Makaton signs alongside spoken language. This will help all children, including those with emerging speech and language skills, to express themselves and understand others more confidently. These experiences will foster a positive and inclusive learning environment, promoting empathy, teamwork, and emotional wellbeing.</p>	<p>play, helping children to become confident communicators.</p>	
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Understanding The World:

People and Communities: As part of our learning theme '*All About Me*', children will explore how they have grown and changed since they were babies, and how they will continue to develop. To support this learning, a new baby and their mother will visit the classroom, giving children the opportunity to ask questions about what babies need to grow and feel safe.

Children will be invited to bring in a named baby photograph of themselves to take part in a small group activity called '*Guess the Baby*'. This will encourage turn-taking, speaking, and listening skills, while also helping children to reflect on their own personal history.

Later in the half term, we will explore family traditions such as baptism or dedication. Children will be encouraged to bring in photographs or items of personal significance to share with their peers. A local vicar will visit Nursery to talk about baptism, demonstrate the ceremony, and share objects of interest with the children. This will be followed by a visit to St. Margaret's Church, giving children a real-life experience of a place of worship.

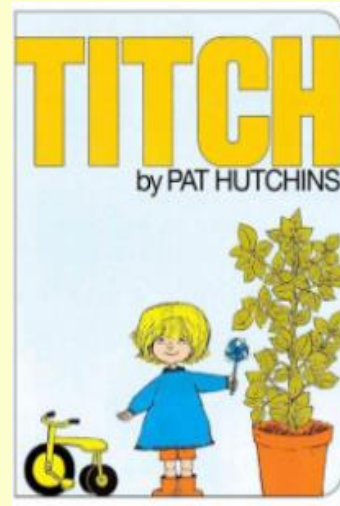
To support communication and inclusion throughout these activities, Makaton signs will be used alongside spoken language, helping all children to express themselves and understand others confidently.

The World: As part of our seasonal learning, children will be encouraged to use their senses to explore the natural

Nursery learning experience
Learning theme: All About Me

Engage: Titch By Pat Hutchins

Express: Visit from local Vicar to talk about Baptism



Moving and Handling: Children will have regular access to the Foundation Stage outdoor play area and equipment, where they can develop their gross motor skills through active play. In addition, we will explore different ways of moving and dancing in the larger space of the school hall, encouraging children to express themselves physically and creatively.

We will also be working to build children's independence by supporting them in putting on their own coats and wellington boots when going digging outside and changing into their plimsolls for PE sessions. These routines help foster self-care skills and confidence in managing personal needs.

To support fine motor development, children will engage with Funky Fingers activities within the provision. These activities are designed to strengthen hand muscles and improve dexterity, which are essential for developing a secure pincer grip and early writing skills.

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environment. We will begin to observe and discuss the changes that occur during autumn, helping children to notice and describe what they see, hear, and feel.

Children will be invited to bring in signs of autumn they may have found, such as pinecones, conkers, or colourful leaves.

These natural items will be explored in small groups, providing opportunities for:

- Sensory exploration
- Sharing and turn-taking
- Speaking and listening

Technology:

Children will have opportunities to explore and use a variety of simple technologies to support their learning and play.

They will be encouraged to operate devices independently, such as:

- Turning on a CD player to listen to stories
- Navigating touch-capable technology like Bee Bots
- Taking photographs using iPads
- Exploring musical toys such as an electronic keyboard

In addition to digital tools, children will engage with low-tech, hands-on activities that promote problem-solving and exploration. These include:

- Using pipes and funnels to transport water
- Operating devices such as a water wheel

These experiences will help children develop curiosity, fine motor skills, and an understanding of cause and effect through interactive play.

Links to Spirituality

WOWS: Sharing what is unique about ourselves

OWS: Falling out of Friendships

NOWS: Sharing baby photos and showing how much we have changed

Health and Self-Care

We will continue to encourage children to use the toilet independently and wash their hands as part of developing self-care skills. These routines help build confidence and support children in managing their personal needs. Your support with these skills at home is greatly appreciated.

We also encourage children to dress themselves, including putting on coats, wellington boots, and changing into plimsolls for physical activities. While this may take longer, with patience and praise, children will gain confidence and enjoy their growing independence, which is an important step in preparing for school.