

Curriculum Letter for YR – Spring Term 2 2024

General Information

The children have returned to school full of energy and ready for the brighter weather! We are looking forward to a range of activities this half term, including spending lots of time busy gardening and talking a bus ride to the garden centre in Crews Hill.

Curriculum

Topic: Our new topic is **Growing**, linked to all areas of learning through our core books 'Errol's Garden', 'The Tiny Seed', 'Bloom' and 'The Extraordinary Gardener'.

Knowledge & Understanding of the World: We will be learning about the key features of a plant and how to care for plants. A spring walk along the New River will give us an opportunity to spot nature in our local environment. We will also be taking a bus ride on the 456 to Wolden's Garden Centre in Crews Hill. Lots of gardening will be happening over the coming months, so fingers crossed for some sunshine!

We are all very excited about the arrival of our duckling eggs. This will provide an unmissable experience of seeing an animal life cycle. The children will be able to handle the ducklings and see them having a swim!

In RE lessons, we will be looking at the themes of Lent and Easter. Each class has a kindness jar and we will be encouraging the children to carry out unprompted acts of kindness, to earn a marble. When the jar is full, we will enjoy a class treat.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development: Class circle time sessions provide a calm and safe environment to talk about friendships. We will also explore the themes of empathy, consideration and tolerance.

Literacy: We continue with our daily phonics sessions and the children will be using their phonic knowledge in a wide variety of writing activities. We will also be using non-fiction texts to find out interesting plant facts.

Mathematics: The children will be learning to add and subtract using practical resources. We will also be learning to share objects and into equal groups and making the connection between sharing (dividing) and grouping (multiplying) to solve practical problems.

Expressive Art & Design: We will be using paint and mixed media to create a whole class garden frieze, as well as designing window boxes. We will be exploring natural and man-made resources to produce collages. Both classes love singing, so we will be learning new songs and rhymes linked to our topic.

Physical Development: Outdoor PE is on Friday morning with Coach Kymani, all children must wear their PE kits to school. We will also be having dance and movement sessions linked to the themes of 'growing' and 'spring'.

Reading

Children will continue to bring home two library books each week to share with their families. In addition, this term some children will have access to a phonics reading book, set every Friday. If you have any problems accessing the phonics books online, please speak to a member of the YR team.



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Homework

Homework is set each Friday on Tapestry. This is linked to learning that has taken place during the school week. Please feel free for the children to explore the Busy Things website as it is not solely for homework, but also to enjoy the educational games on offer.

Key Dates

World book day (dress up)	Thursday 7 th March
PTA wonka bar sale	Thursday 7 th March
New River nature walk	Tuesday 5 th March (RB) & Wednesday 6 th (RW)
Wolden's trip to Crews Hill	Tuesday 12 th March (RW) & Wednesday 13 th March (RB)
Ducklings arrive	Monday 18 th March - Thursday 28 th March
Parent meetings (online)	Tuesday 19 th & Thursday 21 st March
Last day of spring term	Thursday 28 th March 2:00 p.m.
Summer term starts	Monday 15 th April 8:45 a.m.