

Communication and Language

underpinning all areas of the curriculum

- Learning how to listen carefully
- Learning and using new vocabulary
- Developing social phrases
- Asking questions to find out more and check understanding
- Articulating ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences
- Connecting ideas or actions and using a range of connectives
- Describing events in detail
- Using talk to organise thinking and work out problems
- Engaging in storytimes to build familiarity and understanding
- Joining in rhymes, stories, poems and songs
- Listening and talking about non-fiction to develop a familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary

Understanding the World

Science: Changes in winter (seasonal changes, how animals survive, cold places and the polar regions), From desert to jungle (contrasting habitats), Animal Detectives (the variety of animals). Visit from Mrs Goatman, the vet
D&T: Structures, junk modelling - making pet carriers

Geography: Around the world (link with science)

History: Black History Month - Floella Benjamin

Special times and people: New Year, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Children's Mental Health Week (WB 9th Feb)

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Encouraging independence, sharing and taking turns, supporting one another, classroom rules, managing our own needs, expressing likes and dislikes, understanding the feelings of others

- Relationships (revisit)
- Feelings and Emotions (revisit)
- Keeping / Staying Safe
- Online Safety

spring 2026 1st half - minithemes

winter



animal friends



Expressive Arts and Design

Using pretend play opportunities, dance, mini themes and children's own ideas support their imagination, creativity, and self-expression.

Art & Design: Seasonal crafts - "Snowflakes" threading skills, making choices about colour and pattern
Craft and Design - "Let's Get Crafty" developing cutting, threading and joining skills.

Music: Music and Movement - exploring tempo

Computing - Computational Thinking Skills

- Snowmen,
- Make an Igloo
- Bird Feeders

Mathematics

Alive in 5 / Mass and Capacity / Growing 6, 7, 8
Length and Height - **See additional planning**

Literacy

Texts: "Kipper's Snowy Day", "Jack Frost", "The Gruffalo's Child", "Elmer", "Giraffes Can't Dance", "Zigby the Zebra", "The Tiger who Came to Tea"

Reading

Teaching the two dimensions of reading - language comprehension and word reading

Developing a love of reading

Enjoying rhymes, stories, songs and poems

Teaching skilled word reading

*the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding)

*the speedy recognition of familiar printed words.

Writing

Transcription (spelling and handwriting)

Composition (articulating ideas and structuring them into speech, before writing)

See additional planning for Literacy and Phonics

Physical Development

PE - Fundamentals: skills include balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping, and travelling. Children will learn how to stay safe using space, working independently and with a partner.

Fine motor skills: Fine motor skills, promoting an effective grip, confident use of tools, scissors skills, mark making activities.

RE - Which stories are special and why?

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- Building familiarity with texts, activities, new knowledge and expressing thoughts

Understanding the World

Science: What is inside an egg? (Biology), Who lives here? What makes a good bubble? (Chemistry), What is happening to the trees in spring? (Our changing world)

D&T: Structures - bridges, Textiles threading, weaving and sewing,

Kapla visit wb 9th March

Geography: Outdoor adventures - link with OL

Outdoor Learning: signs of spring

Special times and people: WBD, Spring Festivals

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Spring 2026 2nd half - minithemes

dinosaurs



traditional tales



spring



Mathematics

Time / Building 9 and 10 **See additional planning**

Literacy

Texts - "Harry and the Dinosaurs", NF dinosaur books, "The Three Little Pigs", "The Three Billy Goats Gruff", Spring NF books, "The Flower Thief"

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Art & Design: Painting and mixed media - "Paint my World"

Music: Musical Stories: Using instruments to represent actions

Computational Thinking Skills

Make a 'Rabbit Run' using simple algorithms.

Physical Development

PE - Dance: Explore travelling movements, shapes, and balances, choosing their own actions in response to a stimulus. Copy, repeat and remember actions. Count to help keep in time with the music. Perform to others and begin to provide simple feedback.

Fine motor skills: Fine motor skills, promoting an effective grip, confident use of tools, scissors skills, mark making activities.

RE - Why is Easter special for Christians?