

### **Our half-termly topic**

This half-term our topic is 'Growing'. We will be reading 'The Growing Story' by Ruth Krauss. Here we will see the little boy growing up over a year and look at how he has changed. We will talk about how we have grown up and changed from a baby into a toddler, then into the big boys and girls we are now!

We will also be looking at and reading a story called 'What's this?' The story will follow the journey of a seed that a little girl plants. We will watch as she nurtures the plant until it grows into a magnificent sunflower. Although it is a little bit early, we will be sending a seed home for your child to grow when it is time.

One of our focus stories we will read is 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. We will look at and talk about the title, the blurb, the author and illustrator. We will look at how the caterpillar started life, in an egg on a leaf. We will follow the caterpillar's journey as it hatches and sets off to find food. We will talk about the fruit the caterpillar eats every day and what happens when he changes from a caterpillar into a beautiful butterfly. We will also be raising our own caterpillars and watching them change into butterflies. We will then release them before the end of this term.

Our Design & Technology topic this half-term is 'Structures'. We will be learning how to make junk models using boxes, tubs and tubes. We will learn different techniques for attaching the models together, for example, using glue or tape. We will learn how to keep safe when using scissors too. We will then have the opportunity to make our own creations to take home!

Our RE theme is 'Easter'. We will be talking about changing seasons, moving from winter to Spring. We will be looking at and talking about baby animals and what they will grow up to be. We will read 'The Easter Story', focussing on the Last Supper. We will talk about how we think Jesus would feel and why he wanted a special meal with his friends. We will also focus on our prayer time, asking 'why do we pray?', 'who do we pray to?' and 'what might we say?'

In PE we will be learning about 'gymnastics'. We will be moving different parts of our body to music, staying in time and listening to the beat. We will also be learning how to move like different forms of transport, starting and stopping when asked.

### **General Information:**

Morning nursery begins at 8.45am. If your child comes to school late and the gates are locked, please take them to the reception office and a member of nursery staff will collect them from there.

The session for part time morning children finishes at 11.45am. Please wait for your child at the nursery gates and a member of staff will send them out to you as soon as they are ready.

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Full time children will need a healthy packed lunch (please do not send food with any nut content and grapes and large blueberries will need to be cut in half) or a school prepared dinner. Please order and pay for your child's food via Parentpay.

Afternoon nursery session begins at 12.30pm - 3.30pm. These children will need to have eaten their lunch at home before the session begins. Please wait at the red school gate (enter from School Street) and a member of staff will collect your child from there.

Nursery finishes at 3.30pm. Please wait at the nursery gates and a member of staff will send your child out to you. Parents can pick their nursery child up earlier if their siblings are in a class with an earlier finish time (please let staff know if you need to do this).

Please send your child with a bottle of water in a labelled water bottle for them to access throughout the day. It will be sent home each day to be cleaned and returned the next day.

Nursery library will be held in the school library every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 8.15am - 8.40am. We hope you can come along, choose a story and read with your child. Children learn so much language from these sessions and reading for pleasure is so important to all of our children. We will email you to remind you of the dates we will be holding these library sessions.

Your child will need a pair of wellies for outdoor playtime. The field can sometimes become quite wet and muddy, yet the children still love to be out there! This will also help keep indoor shoes clean and carpets mud-free!

If the weather is cold please send a warm coat, hat and gloves if necessary.

As usual, if anyone different is to pick your child up from Nursery, or you are going to be later than expected, please let a member of staff know, or give the school a ring. Also please could you collect your child promptly at 11.45am or 3.30pm for full time children. Thank you.

### How can you help at home?

Ask your child what they have been doing at nursery. Talk to them about what they enjoy doing.

Sing rhymes and songs. Ask them about their favourite songs. Tell them about your favourite songs.

Talk to your child. Ask them questions. Language development is everything at this age!

Read, read, read! Ask questions about the main characters, where the stories are set and what happens in the story.

Count at every opportunity. Show them 'how many' using their fingers.

Encourage them to mark– make every day. Let them draw on the paths using buckets of water and brushes or chinks. Let them see you writing. Explain what you are writing (give writing a purpose).

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Point out letters, numbers and shapes in the environment.

Build up their language through pretend play.

Show them how to use scissors– snipping paper is a good start.

Encourage them to get dressed on their own. Show them how to put tights and socks on.

Show them how to turn their coat sleeves the right way around. Show them how to zip their coat up on their own.

Go on walks. Let them run, climb and balance.

Encourage them to eat a varied diet.

Ensure they know the importance of brushing their teeth twice each day and after meals if possible.

Thank you for your support

From Mrs Pollard and the F1 team