



The Giles Nursery and Infants' School

Autumn Term 2026 Newsletter

Foundation Stage Nursery

Ladybirds



A very warm welcome to all our new children and parents. During the first few weeks we will be making sure the children are settling happily, becoming familiar with routines, and enjoying their sessions at Nursery. We provide a balance of child-initiated play and adult-led activities which are linked to the age-related stages of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. Our topic this half term is 'Nursery Rhymes' and the topic for the second half-term is 'Celebrations'.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Our topics this term are 'Being in my world' and 'Celebrating differences'.

The children will be working alongside their adults to develop their confidence within their new learning environment and share their own special talents. Throughout their time in nursery, the children will develop positive relationships with their adults and peers, developing their awareness of their own feelings, and sharing their own experiences and talking about their own families. The children will be encouraged to play cooperatively, share and take turns, take part in circle time games and small group activities.

Communication and Language



Throughout their time in Ladybird Class, the children will learn a range of nursery rhymes. Each child will receive a 'Rhyme Ring' which will consist of a new nursery rhyme each week. This will be added to the children's book bag. The children will be encouraged to develop and extend their vocabulary throughout their play, through singing of songs and interactions with their adults and peers. Our daily phonics sessions will develop the children's listening and communication skills and support the children in using their ears to really listen to the world around them.

Physical Development



Fine motor skills: The children will have many opportunities to develop their fine motor skills with a range of activities such as play dough, tweezers, threading, construction, and creative activities.

Gross motor skills: The children have daily opportunities to play outside in the nursery garden, using small equipment such as balls and hoops. The children will participate in turn taking games and team games as well as using the sand and water areas inside and outside the nursery. The children will take part in PE lessons once all children have settled into nursery life. This is usually after October half term and you will be notified which day your child will be participating in PE.

Literacy



Our stories are based on our topic theme and are used to structure many of the literacy activities. During their time in Nursery, the children will share books from our reading spine. They will listen to these stories and gain confidence to discuss and join in with them. The children are encouraged to take home books from our library to share with their families every

Monday. They will see writing modelled by adults and explore mark-making through a range of emergent writing activities place throughout the nursery environment.

Mathematics



The children can explore our maths area which will provide daily opportunities for the children to count out objects and recognise numerals. They will be learning how to subitise and create patterns. The children will be encouraged to identify 2D shapes. In water and sand play they will be able to investigate capacity and weight.

Understanding the World



The children will go on a walk to search for spiders and their webs as well as walk around the school woodland area to look for signs of Autumn. They will celebrate Harvest and the Hindu festival Diwali, as well as Bonfire Night and Christmas. They will also take part in Wellbeing Week with the rest of the school. The Nursery Bear will celebrate his 4th birthday, and the children will be helping to plan his party, by writing invitations.

Expressive Arts and Design



The children have access to a wide range of creative activities allowing them to use a variety of materials and techniques. They will create a ladybird, a spider web and an autumnal picture, as well as leaf, fruit and vegetable prints. Our nursery role-play areas will be: 'The Giles Bakery', a greengrocer, a night-time house, Teddy's party house and North Pole Post Office. The children will sing songs and action rhymes together and play a variety of percussion instruments.

Reminders

Once the children have settled in, we will be inviting parents and carers to come to 'Stay and Play' sessions. These sessions will take place each Thursday at the following times:

8.30 - 9.20 am for morning session

12.30 - 1.20 pm for afternoon session

You will be notified after the October half term holiday the date of the first 'Stay and Play' session.

Please name your child's plimsolls, all clothing and book bag, as well as water bottle and lunch box (if your child attends for lunch).

If you have items relating to our topics which we could use or share with the children, or you have any general questions, please do not hesitate in asking a member of the team.

Mrs Dacombe

Class Teacher and Early Years Foundation Stage Leader

Mrs Morgan, Mrs Kimble

Early Years Practitioners

Mrs Ravi, Mrs Aba and Miss Smith

Teaching Assistants

Miss Mitchell

Teaching Assistant apprentice