

Nursery Autumn Term First Half 2026

Nursery Rhymes



Communication, Language and Literacy	• Daily phonics activities • Rhyming activities • Role-play areas: The Giles Bakery and greengrocer • Listen and enjoy a range of different nursery rhymes • Reading spine books • Fiction and non-fiction books • Makaton signs • Weekly rhyme rings • Weekly library books
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Jigsaw: 'Being Me in My World' • Help others to feel welcome • Make our Nursery community a better place • Think about everyone's right to learn • Care about people's feelings • Work well with others • Taking responsibility
Physical Development	Gross and fine motor skills: • Use outdoor apparatus confidently and with agility • Fine motor skills activities including cutting activities, using tweezers, pegs, threading and malleable materials • Throwing and catching a ball • Brain Gym: Developing control and coordination • Yoga
Mathematics	• Introducing 2D shapes • Rhymes and counting songs • Counting how many • Sorting autumnal resources • Making patterns from natural resources • Problem solving • Positional language

Understanding the World	Past and Present: • Circle and snack time • My family People, Culture and Communities • Celebrations: Harvest, Diwali, Bonfire Night and Christmas • The role of the baker, dentist and greengrocer The Natural World • Signs of autumn • The life cycle of a ladybird • Investigating clouds, wind and rain (depending on weather) • Using play dough as a malleable material to investigate pushing, pulling, twisting, squashing, and stretching • Tasting fruits from different countries
Expressive arts and design	Exploring and using media and materials: Creating with materials: • Autumnal collage • Leaf print and conker rolling • Paintings of ladybirds • Day and night pictures • 'Humpty Dumpty' shape picture • Fruit printing • Mondrian art Being imaginative: • Role-play areas: The Giles Bakery and greengrocer Music: • Listening to, learning to sing or sing along with nursery rhymes and action songs • Clapping rhythms of children's names • Exploring the music area and learning the names of musical instruments • Responding to music through movement and dancing • Songs linked to autumn