

Spring Term 2 in Nursery

What will we be learning and how can you help at home?

We start the term learning about Lunar New Year, trying some delicious Chinese food and doing a dragon dance.

How can I help at home?

Explore the 'My First Festivals' section of the Cbeebies website and watch some of the episodes on iPlayer which are connected to our learning.

[How to celebrate Chinese and Lunar New Year 2026 for kids - Cbeebies](#)

[JoJo & Gran Gran - Series 3 - Winter: 11. It's Time for Lunar New Year - BBC iPlayer](#)

[My First Festivals - Series 1: 5. Lunar New Year - BBC iPlayer](#)

We then continue the term learning all about minibeasts through some wonderful stories, 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'What the Ladybird Heard' and 'Bumblebear'.

How can I help at home?

You could borrow these stories from the library and read them at home too. You could also go on a minibeast hunt in your garden, or in the park or common, looking under rocks to see what you can find.

We'll finish the term learning all about Easter including why we celebrate, lots of Easter crafts and hopefully an egg hunt!

Key Vocabulary

Lunar New Year, year of the horse,
celebrate, The Great Race

Minibeasts, change, transform, live

Easter, Jesus, egg,



Listening skills

- *We will listen to stories*
- *We will talk about the books that we have read*
- *We will listen to our names in the register*
- *We will learn to stop when we are asked to.*
- *We will begin to learn how to listen to our friends when they are talking*

How can I help at home?

- *Read stories with your child as often as possible. Talk to them about what is happening, how the characters feel, what they think might happen next.*
- *If you ask your child to do something make sure that they stop and you have your attention before you ask them to do what they need to do*
- *Engage in conversation at meal times, encouraging them to wait and listen to others as they talk – one idea you may choose is one thing you remember you did today.*

Key Vocabulary and questions

What happens next?

How do you know?

What do you enjoy?

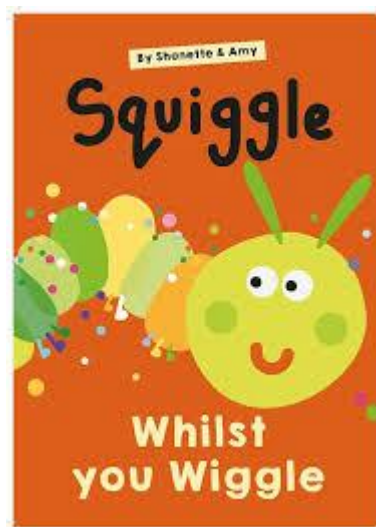


Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle

We will continue on our Squiggle journey next term, which I am sure you have enjoyed seeing on Tapestry. Twice a week we go into the hall and learn a new movement which we act out to music and holding two sets of ribbons. We then do that movement on paper with crayons. It's all about developing children's motor skills to get them ready for being future writers.

You can learn more here...

[squiggle](#)



Name writing

Alongside lots of fine motor activities, the children who are going to Reception in September will also be practising their name writing. We encourage the children to copy the letters rather than trace over, and talk about the shape of the letter, for example for a capital E we would say, "It's one line down and three lines across." We also teach them the capital letter for the first letter of their name and lower case letters for the other letters.

Being active and developing fine motor skills

- We will be developing core strength through climbing, balancing, jumping, running, hopping and many more activities
- We will be exploring patterns with chalk and long handled paintbrushes
- We will learn to pour water from one container to another
- We will learn how to use scissors
- We will have the opportunity to push cars around the vehicle area
- We will learn how to ride the trikes
- We will develop our fine motor skills using screws, nuts and bolts
- We will learn how to put our coats on and zip them up and to put on our own shoes too

How can I help at home?

- Spend time outdoors as much as you can. Make use of the West Common, The Arboretum or local parks to explore. Allow children to take risks and explore their limits.
- Explore chalk, squeeze bottles, lids, pegs on a clothes line, playdough



Wellies

Please ensure your child has a named pair of wellies in Nursery. We go outside in all weathers.

We also encourage keeping a puddle suit in Nursery for rainy days. Please ensure it has their name in it.

Key Vocabulary

Run

Jump

Balance

Hop

Twist

Zip

Fine motor skills

Developing their fine motor skills is a huge part of the children's physical development at this age. To develop strength in their fingers and hands, they must first have a good core strength, and then dexterity in their shoulder, elbow and wrist before moving to their hands.

Here are some ideas of things you can do at home to support this.

- Water painting outside with a bucket of water and a paint brush.
- Drawing, painting, colouring on a vertical surface.
- Playing with playdough to pinch, roll, twist, prod and manipulate the playdough.
- Use pegs, children's tweezers, toy pipettes to play with objects and water.
- Build with wooden blocks, Duplo, Lego, K'nex. Play jigsaws, magnetic fishing games or 'tap a shape' type games to name but a few.
- Please share your fun on Tapestry!



Personal and Social Skills

- We will learn how to wash our hands when we have used the toilet and before we eat our food
- We will learn how to find our own snack and water bottle
- We will learn how to line up when we go for our lunch
- We will know how to feed ourselves when we eat our lunch or snack
- We will learn how to use the toilet independently
- We will learn how to wait our turn if somebody has something that we would like to play with.
- We will know that in our classroom there are only allowed to be 4 children in each other areas – e.g. water tray, creation area.
- We will learn how to ask a grown up for help if we are finding something tricky.

How can I help at home?

- Encourage your child to put on their own coat and shoes before coming to school.
- Encourage your child to wait if someone is playing with something they would like.
- Play simple games at home that encourage taking turns.
- Encourage using the toilet independently, including wiping when they have finished
- Encourage your child to ask 'help me please' if they are finding something tricky.

Key Vocabulary

Share

wait

thank you

Please

help me

my turn/your turn

Tuning into sounds

- We will continue to listen to the sounds we can hear at the beginning of words.
- We will be talking about the sound (not the letter name) that our name begins with, for example Rupert begins with rrrrrrr not 'Ar' and Maggie begins with mmmmmm not 'Em'.
- We will find objects around the classroom beginning with the sounds ssss, a, t, p.

What can I do to help at home?

- Talk about the sound that is at the beginning of the names of the members of your family.
- Go on a hunt around the house to find things that begin with a ssss.
 - If your child is ready, introduce the game I Spy.

Please note we do not introduce what the letters look like in Nursery, we are listening to the sounds.



Maths

- *We will learn a range of counting songs and rhymes, we will learn what four looks like as an amount to support the children in accessing each area in the room as there are only 4 children allowed in each area at once within the classroom (e.g. 4 children at the water tray)*
- *We will learn about counting 5 or more objects accurately.*

How can I help at home?

- *Sing number songs with your child*
- *Count out utensils when laying the table for dinner*
- *Talk about the importance of putting things that you are counting in a line, and touching each one to make them easier to count.*
- *Count the number of shoes by the door*
- *Look at patterns all around, spotty dresses, stripey socks, brickwork on a house.*



Tapestry

If you have not activated your account to see all the wonderful things your child is doing at school, please speak to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

We also encourage you to share all of the wonderful things you are doing at home onto Tapestry. Each week we will be setting a challenge on Tapestry for you to complete and upload.

Key dates

Monday 23rd February- Back to school

Thursday 5th March- World Book Day

Friday 20th March- Red Nose Day

Week beginning 23rd March- Parent's evening week

Friday 27th March- Feel Fabulous Friday

Thursday 2nd April- Last day of school for Easter break

Tuesday 21st April- Back to school

See the whole school newsletter for more details!

Family Reading Sessions

Please look out for dates and times of our family reading sessions on the main school newsletter.

Working together

We want your child's time in school to be as successful as possible. Please let us know in the mornings if there is anything that might affect your child's behaviour that day, such as a bad night's sleep.

We also must be informed if anyone different is collecting your child. We cannot let them go if we haven't been informed of a change. Thank you.