

# Foundation Stage Newsletter Autumn 1 2022

## Nursery- Spiders, Ladybirds and Caterpillars

Welcome to Priory Rise Nursery. We hope your child has settled well and is enjoying their time with us. Here is some information about what skills and knowledge your child will be learning this half term.

**Communication and Language:** Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens. Beginning to pay attention to more than one thing at a time. Use a wider range of vocabulary. Understand a question or instruction that has two parts, such as: "Get your coat and wait at the door".

**Physical development:** Balancing, riding and ball skills. Go up steps and stairs, or climb up apparatus, using alternate feet. Use large-muscle movements. Use one-handed tools and equipment. Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils. Eating independently. Show a preference for a dominant hand. Be increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs.

**Personal, social and emotional development:** Select and use activities and resources, achieving a goal, becoming more outgoing with unfamiliar people, show more confidence in new social situations. Play with one or more other children, extending and elaborating play ideas. Being able to follow rules. Talk about their feelings and begin to understand how others might be feeling.

**Literacy:** Understand print has meaning, different purposes, we read English text from left to right and from top to bottom, the names of the different parts of a book, page sequencing. Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary. Use print and letter knowledge in their early writing. Write some or all of their name.

**Numeracy:** Fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually ('subitising'). Recite numbers past 5. Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5. Show 'finger numbers' up to 5. Combine shapes to make new ones. Talks about and identify the patterns around them. Use informal language like 'pointy', 'spotty', 'blobs' etc to describe shape and texture.

**Understanding of the world:** Exploration of natural materials with similar and/or different properties. Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary. Explore how things work. Explore and talk about different forces they can feel. Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice.

**Expressive arts and design:** Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar. Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses etc. Join different materials and explore different textures. Create closed shapes with continuous lines, and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details.

**Staff:** Miss Williams - Nursery Teacher - Spiders Key Worker  
Miss Tandy - Nursery Nurse - Ladybirds Key Worker  
Mrs Gillespie - Nursery Nurse - Caterpillars Key Worker  
Mrs Satheesh - Teaching Assistant

### Weekly Routine

Nursery children will have Music and Movement sessions on Wednesday mornings and Wednesday afternoons.

Nursery children will have Library sessions on Thursday mornings and Thursday afternoons. Please return your child's book weekly so they can get a new book.

Miss Williams will take her PPA (out of class teacher time for planning and assessment) on Wednesday mornings and will be covered by Mrs Woods (Teacher).

#### **Session times are as follows:**

Morning - 8.50 to 11.50 am (Please do not bring your child before 8.50)

Afternoon - 12.20 to 3.20 pm

Entrance to the Nursery is via the gates from the courtyard. All children must be brought into the building and handed over to the members of staff. We are operating a one-way system. Bring your child through the main door encourage them to put away their lunch box, water bottle and coats. Say goodbye and leave through second door. It is important that you ensure your child is brought to school, and collected, on time.

**Buggies are not allowed into the building during these times.**

### Home Learning

Don't forget to tell us about what your child is achieving at home by uploading pictures and videos to Tapestry. The children really enjoy celebrating their achievements and sharing what they have been up to with their friends.

Hopefully you have all been able to access your child's learning journey having successfully activated your account. If you have not been able to do this, please speak to Miss Williams for some help.

### Home Visits

Thank you to all the families who welcomed us for a home visit. It is a wonderful opportunity and privilege for us to visit you at home to speak to you about this important transition for your child. We hope you found them useful too.

### Nursery Routines

At the beginning of each session when the children are being dropped off they come in and engage in independent learning. Group learning then takes place once everyone is in and settled. We believe that this helps the children to be settled and ready to learn when we begin our small group sessions. If you have any feedback we would love to hear from you.

### Adventures & Explorers Dress-up Day

The rest of the school had a dress up day themed around 'Adventurers & Explorers' during the first week of term. Our dress up day will be Friday 21st October once we are all settled. Children may choose to dress up if they wish following the same theme of 'Adventurers & Explorers'.

### Personal care

We would expect children who are starting Nursery to be independent or almost independent in managing their toileting needs. The exception to this would be any child with a medical need. As mentioned in the induction information, we can manage children who have the odd accident - maybe because they are engrossed in their play or anyone with a care-plan because of their medical need - but we are unable to manage children who are yet to be toilet trained by their parents at home. If your child is not yet independent, please work with them to support them to achieve this as soon as possible. For some useful tips please see the website

<https://www.eric.org.uk/poo-and-wee>

### Reading and Sharing Books at Home

In Nursery we currently have a story based curriculum which changes weekly. It is really important that we develop children's love of reading books early because books are an important source of new vocabulary that can help to develop conversation and help children express their thoughts and emotions.

The Nursery children will visit the library for a regular session every week. Your child will be able to borrow a book, bring it home and return it the following week. Please read these stories to your child and ask them questions about the story, the characters and to make predictions about what might happen next. Giving your child time to think about what is going to happen in the book, or reflect on what has just happened, to build their language and brain development.

### Songs

We will be singing lots in class which fully supports language acquisition and memory, here are some songs we will be learning this half term and maybe you would enjoy practicing them at home too. Most of the songs are available on Youtube if you are not familiar with the words/tune.

1. 12345
2. Wheels on the bus
3. If your happy and you know it
4. Incy, wincy spider
5. Twinkle, twinkle little star
6. Wind the bobbin up
7. 5 Little Ducks
8. 5 Little men in a flying saucer

### Clothing

Please ensure that all your child's belongings (especially cardigans and jumpers) are clearly labelled. We are working hard to help the children become independent, so we would be extremely grateful if you could encourage your child to get dressed independently.

### Creative modelling

Please save for us small boxes, yoghurt pots, kitchen roll tubes, bottle tops, ribbons, card and anything else you think we can use as creative media. Unfortunately we cannot accept toilet rolls or any packaging that has contained nuts, meat or dairy.

Many thanks.

### Lunch Boxes

We encourage all children to bring a healthy packed lunch to school with a good portion of fresh fruit. We ask parents to use due discretion when packing lunches to ensure children have a balanced and healthy lunch. Due to children having nut allergies we ask that parents do not use peanut butter /Nutella in their children's sandwiches or include cereal bars containing nuts in their child's lunch box. As you will appreciate, even a small trace of peanut can cause a severe reaction in some children. We would like to thank you all for understanding with this.

### Year Group Email address

If you need to contact me, you can email me on - [nursery@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk). Or call the office and I will call you back. Please appreciate that the office staff experience a large volume of calls especially at the beginning and the end of the day.

### Starting Primary School in September 2023

Just a reminder that you will need to apply online for your child's school place for September 2023. Children born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019 need to apply by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023. You can get all the information in this link below.

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schools-and-lifelong-learning/school-admissions/starting-primary-or-juniormiddle-school-september>

