



Welcome to Nursery Spring Term 1 Newsletter 2025

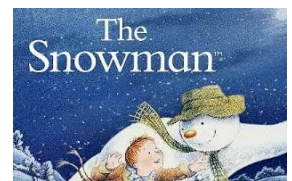
We have had a really successful first term and we hope your child has enjoyed themselves as much as we have. We are looking forward to working together to support your child's learning journey. This half term our topics are **Weather, Journeys, Animals, Chinese New Year, Poetry, Valentines**. Here is some information about the skills and knowledge your child will be learning linked to these topics.

The children have loved our Little Wandle Phonics Scheme called Foundations for Phonics. We have taught the children 6 new sounds/phonemes s,a,t,p,i,n it would be great if you could recap these with your child at home. During our Numbers and patterns sessions we taught the children to recite numbers past 5, to recognise numerals, talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes, to use mathematical language, to extend and create patterns.

Our Curriculum – Here you will be able to find out the details about what your child will be learning week by week. We have included the books and songs we will focus on. If you have any questions, please ask.

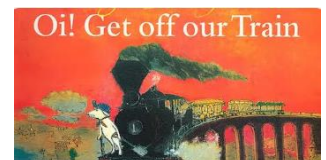
Week 1 The Snowman

- ☺ Reading – The snowman
- ☺ Discussions about weather
- ☺ Discussions about the clothes we wear in different weathers
- ☺ Drawing a snowman
- ☺ Phonics – words beginning with **m** – **m**onkey, **m**ouse, **m**oon, **m**arble
- ☺ To begin to recap numbers 1,2,3
- ☺ Song of the week – rain, rain go away



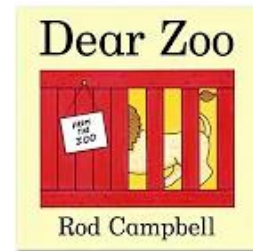
Week 2 Journeys

- ☺ Reading – Oi get off our train
- ☺ Discussions about journeys
- ☺ Making arrangements with shapes e.g rocket, train
- ☺ Phonics – words beginning with **d** – **d**og, **d**uck, **d**ice, **d**inosaur
- ☺ To begin to talk about shapes and their properties
- ☺ Song of the week – engine, engine number nine



Week 3 Animals

- ☺ Reading – Dear Zoo
- ☺ Retelling the story
- ☺ Discussions about animals
- ☺ Drawing pictures of animals
- ☺ Phonics - words beginning with **g** – goat, grapes, glasses, glue
- ☺ To know square and rectangle shapes
- ☺ Song of the week – 5 little monkeys



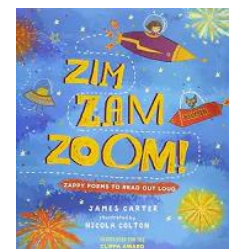
Week 4 Chinese New Year

- ☺ Reading – non-fiction books
- ☺ Discussion – celebrating Chinese New Year
- ☺ Drawing fire works
- ☺ Phonics – words beginning with **o** – orange, octopus, otter, ostrich
- ☺ To count to 4 and recognise the numeral 4
- ☺ Song of the week – If you're happy and you know it



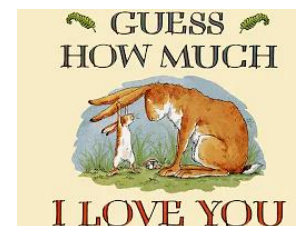
Week 5 Poetry

- ☺ Reading – Poetry books
- ☺ Discussion – What is your favourite poem?
- ☺ Drawing kites
- ☺ Phonics - words beginning with **c/k** – cat, car, kite, kangaroo
- ☺ To copy patterns
- ☺ Song of the week – 2 little dickie birds



Week 6 Valentines

- ☺ Reading – Guess how much I love you?
- ☺ Discussion – Who do you love?
- ☺ Drawing a picture of loved ones
- ☺ Phonics - words beginning with **e** – elbow, elephant, egg, envelope
- ☺ To count to 5 recognising the numeral
- ☺ Song of the week – All my love is bubbling over



Book Review this half term - Miss Williams recommends – Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell

A lift the flap book that explores what kind of pet you would like from the Zoo. I love this story as the children get excited to see which animal is behind the flap and predict the animal that might be next. I'm looking forward to sharing this book with the children soon.



Mrs Benham-Smith recommends – Stuck by Oliver Jeffers

Floyd gets his kite stuck up a tree...

He throws up his shoe to shift it, but that gets stuck too. So he throws up his other shoe and that gets stuck, along with... a ladder, a pot of paint, the kitchen sink, an orang-utan and a whale, amongst other things. I find this story hilarious and love reading it to children so we can all share the laughter. Enjoy this wonderful story of inventiveness and determination.

Poetry

As a school we have a focus on Poetry. Poems are made up of words that can be about anything. Many poems have words that sound good together. In the Nursery we have a dedicated Poem area where the children can look at the books independently or we choose a Poem to share with the class. Do you share Poems with your child? Please upload any photos to Tapestry.



Winter Clothing

As the weather is getting colder, please ensure your child has a winter coat and hats/gloves in school as we spend long periods of time in the outdoor area, no matter the weather. Remember also to label your child's belongings.

Spare Clothes

Our items of spare clothing have dwindled to nothing this term. If your child has borrowed some of our spares, please could we ask that you return them once they have been washed. In addition, if you have any spares at home, you would be happy to donate, we could make good use of them – thank you.

Tapestry Learning Journal

We hope you are all managing to access your child's Tapestry Learning Journal, there is already so much in it. Thank you to everyone who has uploaded something from home too, it's wonderful to see. Just a friendly reminder that Tapestry is for positive learning comments. If there are any issues for discussion please see your child's key worker at drop off/pick up or email us on nursery@pr5d.com. Please note that when we are teaching, the email address may not be checked until the end of the day. If you have a matter that needs addressing before the end of the day it would be best to contact us through the office.

Purple Mash

I hope you have managed to access Purple Mash at home. I have pinned topics to the board – Winter, Chinese New Year and Zoo to link with the learning this half term. We also use the phonic games which are great. Once logged into Purple Mash click on Early Years then Mini Mash, there are lots of activities to explore.

Parent's Information

There is a Foundation Stage page on the school website. This includes our year overview, information about our Foundation stage and useful websites.

Priory Rise Parent Page

Did you know Priory Rise School is on Facebook? You can keep up with the latest events and news of what is happening at Priory Rise. There are some wonderful photos of the children participating in events in and out of school.

Starting school in September 2025

Last reminder that you need to apply online for your child's school place for September 2025. Children born between 1 September 2020 and 31st August 2021 need to apply by 15th January 2025. 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>

Routines

- ☺ Music and Movement is in the small hall on Wednesdays.
- ☺ We visit the library for a regular session every week on a Thursday. Your child will be able to borrow a book, bring it home and return it the following week on Thursday. Non return of books will incur a charge so please ensure you look after it.
- ☺ Miss Williams takes her PPA (out of class teacher time for planning, preparation and assessment) on Tuesday mornings and will be covered by Miss Smith.

End of the session:

- ☺ We are kindly asking parents to wait outside the Nursery door when collecting your child so we can ensure your child goes to the correct parent/carer.

Staffing

- ☺ Miss Williams: Class Teacher – Spiders Key Worker
- ☺ Miss Tandy: Nursery Nurse – AM Ladybirds Key Worker
- ☺ Mrs Gillespie: Nursery Nurse – Caterpillars Key Worker
- ☺ Mrs Satheesh: Nursery Nurse – PM Ladybirds Key Worker
- ☺ Miss Smith: Higher Level Teaching Assistant