



Spring 2: Spring in your Step

Spring 2 is a lively and positive half term, full of opportunities for children to grow in confidence and independence. Children will continue to take part in their daily phonics, maths, English, and handwriting sessions, alongside plenty of time in COOL (Choose Our Own Learning). During these sessions, children will further develop their social skills, vocabulary, creativity, and fine and gross motor skills through purposeful play.

This half term, our topic is **Spring in Your Step**, where children will explore the seasonal changes that happen during spring. They will learn about new life, growth, and changes in the natural world through hands-on activities, outdoor learning, stories, and creative experiences.

Children will continue to bring home phonics readers and red words, as well as story books to enjoy together at home. We encourage you to spend a short amount of time each day supporting these activities, as regular practice has a big impact on children's confidence and progress. (Just as a reminder, your child is only expected to be able to read the phonics sheet/book as this is matched to their current phonics level. The shared reading book is for you to read to your child and spend time discussing).

We ask that children read at least three times per week at home — however, the more frequently they read, the more fluent, confident, and enthusiastic they will become.

Communication and Language	PSED	Physical Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities explain how things work and why they might happen. • Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding. • Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text; some as exact repetition and some in their own words. • Understand and use new vocabulary introduced through non-fiction texts and stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to the story, <i>The Empty Pot by Demi</i>. • Talk about feelings when things don't always go to plan. • Share when they have tried their best? Do you always succeed? • Talk about why it is important to eat a range of fruit and vegetables. • Be encouraged to try new things. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to the children about why it is important to eat a range of fruit and vegetables. • Sort beans and seeds with tweezers. • Hole punch leaves and join with pipe cleaners to make a beanstalk. •
Understanding of the world	Expressive art and design	Literacy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe a range of beans and seeds • Plant a bean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at the illustrations in <i>The Extraordinary Gardner by Sam Boughton</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read, Write Inc phonics • Enjoy and participate in a variety of songs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep a bean diary, drawing the bean at different stages of development. Closely observe changes. • Talk about what the bean needs to grow • Go on a Spring discovery walk. Describe what can they see/hear and feel? Look at pictures of winter and spring and compare. • Go on nature hunts looking for plants including flowers, insects and spiders. Talk about what they find. • Record what they find using checklist or carefully drawing what they observe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreate their own pictures: • Explore mixing colours to paint their own butterfly • Observational painting and drawing of natural things including daffodils and tulips. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore literacy skills using 'Pathways to Write' through this half term's focus text, Sunny and the birds.
<p style="text-align: center;">Maths</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Religious Education & HRSE</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore symmetrical patterns, in which each side is a familiar pattern, linking this to 'doubles'. • continue to consolidate their understanding of cardinality, working with larger numbers within 10 • become more familiar with the counting pattern beyond 20. • explore the composition of odd and even numbers, looking at the 'shape' of these numbers • compare numbers, reasoning about which is more, using both an understanding of the 'howmanyness' of a number, and its position in the number system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
	<p style="text-align: center;">Key Texts</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Key Events</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extraordinary gardener • Sunny and the birds • Jack and the beanstalk • The enormous turnip • The very hungry caterpillar • The empty pot • Superworm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World book day: 5th March • Trip to Ridgeway Farm: 17th March • Feast of St Joseph 19th March • Class Celebration of the word: 23rd March 9am • Zones of Regulation parents workshop 25th March 9.30-11am