

Literacy

This half term, we will be focusing on three key texts: *Peace at Last*, *Whatever Next* and *One Snowy Night*. Each book will be explored over one or two weeks, allowing children to become familiar with the stories while learning new vocabulary and enjoying songs linked to the texts. Our writing activities will be closely connected to the key stories, and throughout the half term children will continue to practise forming letters correctly, recalling and retelling stories, and writing words and simple sentences.

Reception Spring 1 Starry Night

Mathematics

This half term, children will continue to develop new mathematical skills through daily whole-class inputs, with further opportunities to deepen their understanding during focused, adult-led group sessions. Continuous provision in the maths area will support children in applying and practising their new learning independently. During this half term, children will learn to:

- Ordering
- Subitise and compare
- Composition to 10
- Matching pairs
- Addition
- Number to quantity to 20

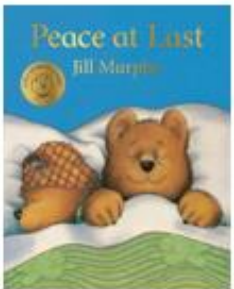
Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will continue to provide a nurturing and supportive environment in which children can develop a positive sense of self and a secure understanding of others. Opportunities will be planned to support children in forming positive relationships, showing respect and empathy, and developing effective social skills. Children will be encouraged to recognise and manage their emotions appropriately, understand expectations for behaviour, and develop resilience, independence and confidence in their own abilities.

Through consistent daily routines and structured activities, children will be supported to take turns, share ideas, listen to others and participate actively in their learning. In line with the Early Learning Goals, children will be encouraged to manage their own needs, follow instructions, work cooperatively with peers, and show increasing confidence and self-awareness in a range of situations.

Physical

Children will continue to be given daily opportunities where they can be active and engaged, supporting the development of coordination, control and movement. They will have regular access to the outdoor environment, where they can use trikes, scooters and a range of equipment to develop their physical skills. Gross motor development will be supported through large-scale movement activities such as *Squiggle While You Wiggle*, *GoNoodle* and *DannyGo*. Fine motor skills will be developed through activities including *Dough Disco* and a variety of hands-on tasks. In addition, we will promote health and self-care, with a focus on independence, personal hygiene and oral health.



Communication and Language

Children will continue to develop their communication and language skills by learning to listen carefully, understand instructions and take part in conversations. They are encouraged to express their ideas, thoughts and feelings using full sentences, ask and answer questions, and take turns when speaking. Through stories, songs, role play and group discussions, children build their vocabulary and confidence in speaking, helping them to communicate clearly and effectively. Our knowledge organiser includes the key words that children will learn and use in context.

Understanding the World

This half term we will be focusing on seasonal changes and nocturnal animals. We will continue to explore similarities and differences between themselves and others, learn about past and present events, and begin to understand their local area and the wider world. Children are encouraged to ask questions, explore, investigate and make sense of the world around them. In RE we will be focusing on how all religions teach us to care for ourselves and others. We will explore the different stories that support this.

Expressive arts and Design

Children will have daily access to a wide range of materials, allowing them to explore and create independently. They will continue to learn how to use resources appropriately and take responsibility for caring for the provision. Opportunities will be provided to engage in art, craft and music activities, including the use of a variety of musical instruments. We will also continue to focus on our key artist, Jackson Pollock, using his work to inspire our own creations while learning key facts about his life and artistic style. Imaginative play, with opportunities for children to engage in small world and role-play activities are modelled and encouraged. A range of resources will be available to encourage creativity, storytelling and exploration. The provision will be thoughtfully enhanced to link with our topic and to reflect the interests and needs of the children, supporting purposeful and imaginative play.

Reading Books

Book bags should now be returned to school every Thursday and will be sent home again on Friday. Your child will continue to bring home a shared reading book for you to enjoy together. These books are designed to be shared, encouraging children to talk about the pictures, ask questions and join in with repeated phrases. Sharing books with adults and siblings helps to develop a love of reading as well as a sense of responsibility. Once children begin learning new phonics sounds and are able to segment and blend simple words, they will also bring home a reading book or ditty sheet matched to their phonics level. These will support children in making independent attempts at reading and building their confidence as early readers.

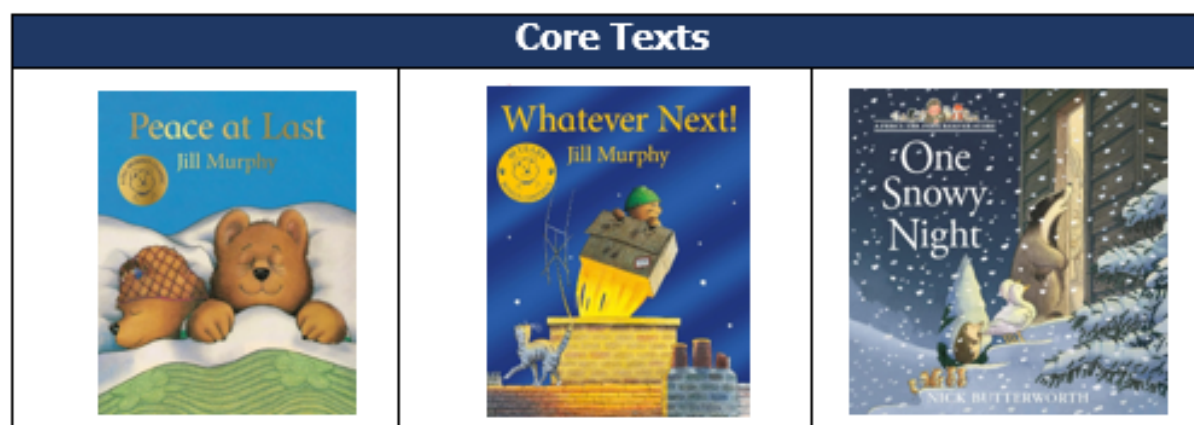
School Uniform and Attendance

Uniform Expectations: We will continue to uphold expectations for school uniform, including: A navy blue jumper or cardigan with or without the school logo; grey trousers, skirt or shorts; white or navy-blue polo shirt with or without the school logo; plain white, grey or black socks or plain grey tights; Plain black trainers or school shoes. **Please ensure uniform is clearly marked with the child's name.**

Reception registration begins at 8.30am. The gates will be open from 8.20am to allow your child to arrive and access their morning tasks. After 8.30am, the gates will remain open to allow Nursery children to enter.



Starry Night Vocabulary	
Nocturnal	Awake at night.
Hibernation	A long sleep during winter.
Predator	An animal that hunts other animals.
Dentist	A tooth <u>doctor</u> .
Hygiene	Keeping clean.
Tooth decay	Damage to the teeth if you don't brush them.
Planet	A planet is a big, round object that moves around a star.
Astronaut	An astronaut is a person who travels into space. They go on rockets to explore the Moon, planets, and the stars.
Earth	Earth is the planet we live on.
Winter	Winter is the coldest season of the year.



Sticky Knowledge about Starry Night
Nocturnal animals sleep during the day and come out at night.
Nocturnal animals use special senses to help them in the dark, such as excellent hearing, good night vision, or a strong sense of smell.
Examples of Nocturnal animals include: owls, bats, hedgehogs, foxes, badgers.
We need to brush our teeth twice a day, morning and night.
Space is everything beyond Earth's sky.
The Sun is a star, and Earth moves around it.
In Winter, we have shorter days and longer nights.