

Understanding the World: We are Scientists

This term, we will continue to explore the world around us. Our key question will be: **What do animals and plants need to be able to grow?** We will help to look after our garden and try growing a variety of plants. **We welcome any donations of seeds, plants and compost to support our learning.** Please speak to the Preschool team if you can help.

Literacy: We are Writers

We will continue to develop our mark-making in many ways, including drawing in sand and painting with water in the garden and using wipeable whiteboards, too. When we tell someone about our marks, we are demonstrating our understanding that marks have a meaning. This is an important step towards learning to read and write! Some of us will also be ready to learn to write our name and add this to our pictures.

We are Readers

We will continue to enjoy sharing books with our friends and we're developing our knowledge of some familiar stories. Our growing attention span will allow us to concentrate on longer books during story times and we will have the chance to share our opinions about them!

Mathematics: We are Mathematicians

Throughout the day, we will have lots of opportunities to count objects to 5 and beyond. Staff support us by making this part of our play or routine, eg counting the items we tidy up, or the grapes in our lunchbox. We will continue to sing lots of number songs with opportunities to practise representing numbers on our fingers.



Personal, Social & Emotional Development:

We are self-aware

This term, we welcome Miss Mohammed to Preschool and we look forward to getting to know her more after her lovely visit in the last week of Term 4. We will continue to develop confidence in new situations and to practise the skills to play with other children, learning to share resources and take other children's feelings into account. We will talk lots about Amethyst power, which we use when we collaborate and work as a team.



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Physical development: We are Strong Movers

We will make the most of the (hopefully) improving weather to be really active outdoors. We will continue to develop our strength by building obstacle courses, throwing, catching and kicking balls, carrying equipment and balancing. We will have lots of opportunities to run, scoot and cycle, too.



Our hands will become stronger and more able to control movements because staff will provide opportunities to develop our fine motor skills. We will use tweezers to pick up small items, squeeze play dough, manipulate puzzle pieces and thread beads. Every time we mark-make, staff will guide us to hold a pen or pencil appropriately so that this becomes automatic!

Dates for the diary:

- Monday 1st May: Bank Holiday
- Monday 8th May: Bank Holiday
- Wednesday 17th May - Class photos
- Friday 26th May – Last day of term

General reminders:

As the weather improves, please apply sun cream to your child and provide a named sun hat.

Thanks for your help providing a healthy, nut-free lunch and a named bottle containing only water.

Please return your child's book each Monday or Thursday for them to choose a new one.

Communication and Language:

We are Speakers and Listeners

We will have lots of opportunities to practise our Topaz power when talking. This includes using a big voice, talking in longer phrases or sentences and using new vocabulary. We continue to use Makaton signs to support our speaking. We will also develop our listening skills, gradually extending our attention span and engaging in group discussions.

Expressive Art and Design: We are Artists

We will continue to develop the confidence to play with our friends to make up imaginary worlds and make up stories to go with them. Sometimes our worlds will be small worlds, using dinosaurs, teddies or mini people to act out our ideas. On other occasions, we will pretend that we are the characters in our worlds, dressing up or using props. Our talk will develop, using increasingly sophisticated phrases and sentences in our play.

