



Welcome to Saplings Class!



My name is Mrs Stevens and I will be teaching in Cherry Class this year.

Important information

My name is Mrs Moody and I will be supporting in Cherry Class this year.



My name is Miss McCabe and I will be supporting in Cherry Class this year.

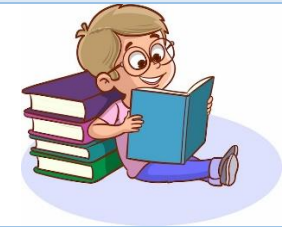


This term, Our PE days will be **Monday** and **Tuesday**. Please ensure that children arrive at school wearing a suitable PE kit which consists of navy-blue shorts / jogging bottoms / leggings, a white T-shirt, and a pair of black trainers. A school jumper or cardigan should be worn for warmth, or school PE hoodies can be purchased if you would prefer.

In Reception, children are expected to read at home daily. Initially, this will involve recapping sounds and simple words learnt in phonics lessons. As the term progresses, children will bring home a reading book which matches their phonic ability and must read with an adult a minimum of three times per week. Please sign your child's reading record to show that you have read with them. Children's reading books and book bags will be sent home every night and must be returned to school each morning.

Reading and
phonics

In phonics this term, we will begin to learn the first sounds from what is known as the Initial Code. We will quickly begin to blend these into simple words such as mat, sit, and sat. Each week, we will learn a small number of new sounds and will read and write simple words containing these sounds.



Communication and
Language
And Literacy



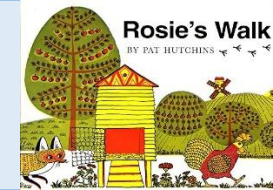
This half-term, we will be encouraging the children to speak clearly using complete sentences with as much detail as they can manage. We will be modelling this with the children all day, every day! We will be talking about our families as part of our Marvellous Me topic. Please send in a photo (or photos) of your child with their family so that they can tell us all about their family. Thank you. Please note that photos may not be returned in perfect condition – please send copies rather than precious originals.

Every day we will have our DEAR session (Drop Everything and Read) where we share stories, poetry and non-fiction books with the class. Children will be encouraged to show their good listening skills and we will ask questions to check children's understanding of what has been read to them. We hope the children will learn some new vocabulary from the books we read and will be listening to hear if they can use these new words in conversation at school.



Maths

In Literacy this term, our learning will be based on the following books: Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins, We're Going on a Leaf Hunt by Steve Metzger and Perfectly Norman by Tom Percival. We will create 'story maps' and actions to match each story and learn a shortened version of the story which we will be able to recite off by heart. These early literacy lessons will help us to develop our vocabulary, understand sentence structures, and improve our speaking and listening skills.



This term, we will focus on developing our understanding of numbers up to 5. We will count objects, actions and sounds to 5, and learn to subitise numbers to 5. This means to recognise a small amount without counting. We use our 'fast eyes to subitise' and 'don't count, say the amount'. We will explore the composition of numbers up to 5, looking at the different ways we can make up each number.

We will also explore length, weight and capacity, comparing objects to see which is heavier and lighter, taller and shorter and so on.

Finally, we will learn about repeating patterns by identifying, describing, copying and creating our own repeating patterns using everyday objects and autumn treasures.



Understanding the World



We develop our understanding of the world throughout our days at school. When we play outside, we think about what we can see, hear and feel. We note the changing seasons by observing nature. We start every day by discussing the date, the season, and the weather.

We will be learning about families and people who help us around school in the first half term, then move on to looking at celebrations after half term. We learn that not all families celebrate the same events, and that different religions have different special days and places of worship. We will learn about Halloween, Bonfire Night, Birthdays, Diwali, Hanukkah, and Christmas, to name just a few! If you have any other special events you celebrate in your family, please let us know and we will be sure to add these to our list to learn about.

We will also begin to learn about how life has changed over many years by looking at toys from the past compared with modern toys.

Expressive Arts

We encourage the children to explore their creativity at different points throughout the week. Our creative area is always available during continuous provision time (when the children are learning through play), and has an array of different resources available for the children to explore and create whatever they wish. We will have suggested activities available, but also encourage freedom of expression at all times. If the children wish to use the resources in a completely different way, we will be happy to support this! Children have access to paints, sketching pencils, junk materials, different papers and craft materials, chinks, glue and much, much more.



We also love to express our creativity through dance and drama. We have a weekly Friday Boogie to celebrate the arrival of the weekend, and usually have roleplay props available in the classroom linked to our topic or literacy texts.

Physical Development



In PE lessons this term, we will think about developing our fundamental motor skills. We will play lots of games to help us develop our core strength, and to enable us to walk, run, skip, hop, jump, crawl and climb safely and effectively.

We will also enjoy Wheelie Friday each week, using the scooters and balance bikes, and use the climbing apparatus in the hall each week to improve our upper body strength and build our hand/finger muscles. This, in turn, will help us with our fine motor skills.

Our fine motor focusses for this term will be developing an effective pencil grip, and using scissors safely and effectively to cut out simple shapes. We will also be ensuring all children can zip and unzip their own coats and would appreciate your support with this by practising at home. Thank you!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, we will be working on developing independence with our personal care (toileting, hand washing, eating lunch), practising getting dressed and undressed (coats, shoes, waterproofs), and working on recognising our own and other people's feelings and beginning to act appropriately towards one another.

In PSHE lessons this term, we will think about 'being me' and 'celebrating differences'. We will think about what makes us special and unique and how this is different for everybody. We will also begin to learn how our brains work and what we can do to help ourselves be happy and calm at school and at home.



Music

In music this term, we will explore how we can use our voice and bodies to make sounds. When playing an instrument, children will experiment with tempo and dynamics. We will identify sounds in the environment and differentiate between them.

