

## Communication and language (Prime)

This half term we will have some very special visitors coming to live in our Early Years rooms for two weeks! We are getting living eggs, which we will look after until they hatch! We will be asking questions and sharing ideas about how we can look after the eggs. We will be describing the changes we see as the eggs hatch. We will talk about growth and the changes we see as the chick grows bigger each day! We will relate this to other animals and to ourselves. We are beginning to talk about lots of events in Nursery and retelling these in sequence.

**What you can do to help?** Talk to your child about growing up. Encourage them to ask questions about when you were a child and when their grandparents were children. Share stories with them about animals and talk about baby animal names.



## Personal, Social and Emotional Development (Prime)

Together we will develop a set of rules to care for our ducklings. We will handle them with supervision and take turns to feed, water and help clean the ducklings. During circle time we will talk about looking after the ducklings and we will relate this to how we can look after each other in the Foundation Stage. We will then move on to explore the significance of Easter and new life and we will also discuss the changes happening during spring time. The children will talk about how they are growing and changing and they will be encouraged to listen to their peers and show an interest in each other's views and opinions. **What can you do to help?** Play turn taking games at home. Talk about feelings – how do you feel? Talk about what we could do to help us feel better. I am hungry so I need some food.

## Maths (Specific)



We will continue counting to 10 starting from different numbers. We are trying hard to have a good understanding of the concept of numbers and knowing that the last number we say is how many we have altogether. We will also be looking at comparing groups of objects and shapes. The children are enjoying finding shapes in the environment and we will continue to build on this, finding shapes within objects that we use every day.

**What can you do to help?** Continue to use counting at every opportunity, e.g. count the stairs as you walk up and down them, count the number of carrots on your plate, count how many letters in your name etc. Look for shapes in everyday items, e.g. windows, clocks, food and in pictures.

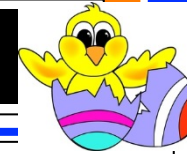
## Physical Development (Prime)

We will spend some time this half term talking about diet and making healthy choices. We will compare our own diet to a duckling's diet and learn what the duckling needs to stay healthy. When handling the ducklings we will make sure that we wash our hands afterwards-ensuring good hygiene. We will continue our PE lessons which begin every week with the children taking off their own shoes, socks and jumpers off. They then put their own clothes back on at the end of the session. We will play lots of games that require good listening and we will also continue to practice hand/eye co-ordination skills with throwing and catching activities. To develop our fine motor skills we will participate in a range of activities including; making eggs in the play dough, making finger paint pictures/ egg patterns, using tweezers- fill egg cups with beads/ sprinkles etc.

**What you can do to help?** Encourage your child to write letters from their names on any pictures they draw at home. Help your child to build the muscles in their fingers by using playdough, and threading beads.



## St Thomas the Martyr Nursery Spring 2- Spring/Ducklings!



## Expressive arts and Design (Specific)

This half term we will continue to experience a wide range of materials. We will create nests for our ducklings in different areas e.g. construction, outdoors, sand, model making. We will learn new duckling action rhymes and songs. We will draw and paint pictures of ducklings and engage with small world farm activities where we can create our own storylines and narratives. We will also decorate eggs for Easter. **What you can do to help?** Please send in any junk materials we can use in school. Create Easter crafts/pictures at home and bring them in to show us.

## Understanding the world (specific)

Ducklings will be our main focus this half term but we will also learn all about Spring! We will watch video clips and learn about the changes that happen to our environment and to animals as they grow up. We will look at life cycles and compare ourselves to the ducklings- noticing the similarities/differences. We will use digital photography to capture images of the ducklings and use different computer software to record information about the ducklings. **What can you do to help?** Use the iPad or computer at home to look at facts about baby animals. Go for a walk with your child and look for signs of spring. What is happening to the weather? Trees? Plants?

## Literacy (Specific)

We will do lots of mark-making this half term! We will make posters telling people how to stay safe when handling the ducklings and write about what we have seen. We will read lots of fictional stories about eggs and ducklings such as Brenda's Boring Egg and The Ugly Duckling and we will role play and retell the stories. Then we will look at information books about ducklings and work together to add all the information we have learnt to our floor book. Additionally, we will have lots of opportunities to write in our areas of provision such as role play, small world, construction and the writing table.

**What can you do to help?** Ask your child about any pictures they have drawn. Draw with them and talk about what you have made. Read lots of stories and ask questions about what is happening. Play rhyming games at home.

