

Communication and language (Prime)

This half term our new topic will be 'spring and growing' and we will have some visitors coming to live in our early years. We will be having eggs that will hatch into ducks and we will be able to observe the changes that occur. We will be asking questions and sharing ideas about how we can look after the ducks.

We will also have caterpillars to look after and we will observe how they change into butterflies. .

What you can do to help? Talk to your child about caring for a variety of animals including the importance of handwashing.

If you go on a visit to a farm, then please send in the photographs or if your child finds any minibeasts in the garden we'd love to see the pictures.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (Prime)

Together we will develop a set of rules to care for our ducks and other minibeasts found in our outdoor area. We will handle them with supervision and care being very gentle so that we don't harm them. During Key Worker time we will share feelings about looking after minibeasts and we will relate this to how we can look after each other in the Early Years. 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.

What can you do to help? Please continue to encourage your child to share and wait their turn. Praise them at home when they have been kind and helpful.

Maths (Specific)

We will continue to familiarise ourselves with numerals to 6 and then 10. We will be ordering numbers, matching numbers with quantities and counting objects that can't be moved. We will be measuring worms and deciding which is the longest/shortest and put them in order of length. We will go outside on a minibeast hunt and use positional language when following the clues!

What can you do to help? Continue to count with your children in a range of different ways including backwards and counting on from a number that isn't always 1. Encourage the children to talk about the different numbers that they can see in the environment.

Physical Development (Prime)

We are still encouraging the children to put their coats, wellies and shoes on independently and as a challenge we are encouraging them to zip up their own coats. We continue to develop the children's fine motor skills but this will be with a Spring theme, look out for the different activities in our 'finger gym'.

We will be encouraging the children to decide what vegetables we should grow in the garden area and we will be talking about healthy foods.

What you can do to help? When you have a little more time, encourage your child to get themselves dressed to go outside then go for a walk with your child and look for signs of spring. What is happening to the weather? Trees? Plants?



St Thomas the Martyr
Nursery
Spring 2- Spring and Growing



Expressive arts and Design (Specific)

We will be encouraging children to take on a role in our role play vets and encouraging the children to link this with the home corner. The children will take part in a number of Easter crafts. **What you can do to help?** If you have any spare packets of seeds or bulbs that we can plant in our garden we would be really grateful.

Understanding the world (specific)

We will be learning all about Easter and how we prepare for this, we will start by celebrating pancake day and tasting some yummy pancakes. We will be planting a variety of bulbs and seeds in our growing area. We will be looking at life cycles and looking at how we have changed. **What can you do to help?** Spend some time with your child finding out information about different signs of spring. Talk to your child about the changes that have occurred since they were a baby.

Literacy (Specific)

Our author for this half term is Eric Carle. We will be sharing stories including 'The very hungry caterpillar', 'The tiny seed' and 'The very busy spider'. We will look at a range of non-fiction books relating to spring and growth. Additionally we will be encouraging the children to make marks for a purpose in our vets and recording the changes that they see with the eggs and the seeds that we will be planting.

What can you do to help? When your children make marks, encourage them to talk about what they have written.

Talk to your children about the print that they see in the world around them, can they guess what it might say?

Dear parents and carers,

We hope that you have had a lovely but wet February half term. Please find attached our half term overview. We will be looking out for signs of spring, talking about mini beasts and we have some very special visitors in school (caterpillars and eggs!!)

Parents Evening

Thank you to everyone for attending parents evening, we hope that you managed to have a look through your child's learning journey. Remember if you would like to add any pictures/photographs to your child's learning journey, just bring them in. If you didn't manage to make parents evening, please speak to Mrs Christy and we can arrange another date.

2Simple (Learning Journeys)

We have been having a few technical issues with our 2simple programme which is why you haven't received any emails showing your child's learning. If you have not yet received an email from 2simple, please let me know and I will re-send it. We are hoping to share some photos of your child and their learning via email this half term.

Easy Peasy

If you have still not received any messages for the Easy Peasy programme, please can you let me know as it may mean we don't have your up to date contact details. I have spoken to Easy Peasy as some of the activities seemed a little simple and as a result they will be changing the games that are sent out on a Saturday morning. Remember you can swipe to the next screen to find out how to simplify or challenge the game given.

Junk modelling

We would like to develop our junk modelling area in nursery and we were wondering if you would had any of the following materials: kitchen rolls (sorry toilet rolls are not allowed), small boxes, egg boxes, bottle tops and yoghurt pots, ribbons, wool, string

Life Cycles

We are looking at life cycles of butterflies, frogs and chicks this half term. We would also like to link this to life cycles of children. Do you have any baby photographs of your child that you would be happy for us to copy for a display? If so please can you send them in by Monday 2nd March 2020?

Book area

We are in the process of developing our outdoor area and praying for some better weather! We were wondering if you had any blankets, cushions, covers that you would be happy to donate to school.

Dates for the diary

5th March - World Book Day - this will be celebrated in school with a special themed lunch and a book inspired art work creation. (We do have a fancy dress day in the summer term which links to World Book Day!)

1st April - 9am Eucharist - everyone invited

2nd April - This is the last day for nursery.

3rd April - There is NO NURSERY on this day. This is the last day for the rest of the school.

20th April - School opens for everyone