

# PARENT CURRICUUM INFORMATION



## SUMMER TERM 1 DOWN ON THE FARM

### THIS TOPIC

This term, we'll be diving into the wonderful world of farming right here in our local community. The children will discover just how important farms and farmers are, and how they help provide the food we eat every day.

Through lots of hands-on experiences, we'll spark curiosity and create moments of "Wonder and Awe" as we explore life on the farm. From learning about animals to understanding how crops grow, there will be so much to discover!

We'll also be encouraging our 'Right Attitudes to Life' by exploring farm life—celebrating the hard work and care that farmers show every single day. Children will learn how to be kind and respectful to our environment and all living things, linking closely to our 'GROW' ethos.

And the excitement doesn't stop there...

We will even become little farmers ourselves by planting our own seeds, watching them grow, and caring for them—just like real farmers do!

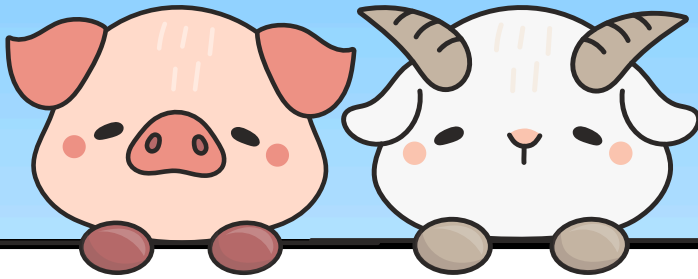
### PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This term, the children will be developing their personal, social and emotional skills through our farm theme. They will learn about caring for living things by looking after chicks and plants, and thinking about the role of the farmer. We will encourage the children to consider the needs and feelings of others, for example how to behave calmly and gently around animals. Through role play and group activities, the children will practise taking turns, sharing resources and working together. We will also talk about feelings, helping children to understand how others might feel in different situations and to express their own emotions.

### COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

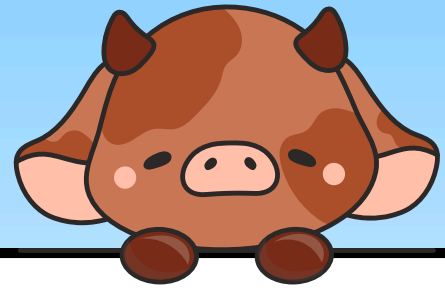
This term, the children will be developing their communication and language skills through our farm theme. We will be sharing stories such as Dora's Chicks, On the Farm and Milly Cow, encouraging the children to talk about what has happened, recall key events and discuss their favourite parts. The children will take part in group discussions where they will describe what they can see, talk about changes over time (such as watching chicks hatch and plants grow), and learn new vocabulary linked to the farm and food. We will also encourage the children to ask their own questions, for example when looking at how our school has changed over time or learning about where food comes from. Through role play, songs and small group activities, the children will practise listening carefully, following instructions and expressing their ideas with increasing confidence.





## **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

The children will be developing both their fine and gross motor skills through a range of indoor and outdoor activities. Outdoors, they will build confidence using bikes, learning to pedal, steer and move safely. In PE, the children will practise skills such as throwing and catching with small, controlled passes and moving in different ways by pretending to be farm animals. Fine motor skills will be supported through activities such as planting seeds, using tools, mixing, pouring and creative tasks like collage and mark making. These activities will help to build strength, coordination and control.



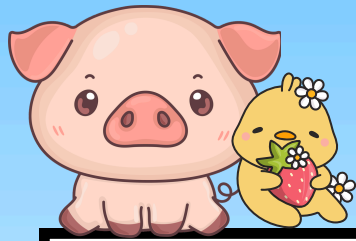
## **MATHS**

In Maths, the children will explore number, shape and measure through practical, hands-on activities. They will practise recognising numbers and counting objects, as well as beginning to record how many they have counted. Through farm-themed play, children will explore concepts such as capacity (full and empty), weight (heavy and light), and size (big and small). They will also use shapes to build structures such as animal homes, learning to name both 2D and 3D shapes. These activities will help children to develop confidence in using mathematical language and understanding.

## **LITERACY**

In Literacy, the children will continue to develop their mark making and early writing skills through meaningful experiences linked to our theme. They will use a range of tools, including tablets, to create marks and give meaning to their drawings and writing. We will encourage the children to talk about what they have created and begin to represent ideas such as animals, plants and simple labels. Through our focus stories, children will practise recalling events, sequencing what has happened and joining in with familiar parts. Phonics sessions will support children in recognising sounds and engaging in songs and rhymes.





## **UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD**

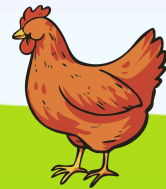
The children will explore the world around them through our farm theme, developing an understanding of living things, food and the environment. They will observe changes over time, such as watching chicks hatch and plants grow, and talk about what they notice. We will explore where food comes from by matching animals to the products they give us and discussing different types of farms. The children will also learn about the past by looking at how the land around our school has changed. Technology will be used to support learning, with children using tablets to take photos and explore simple apps.

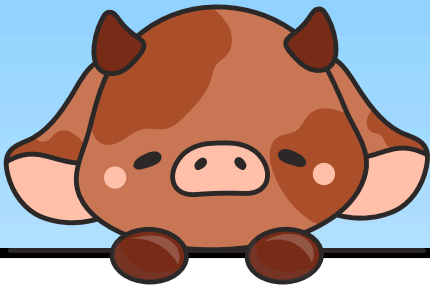
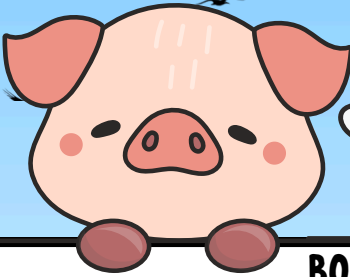
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## **EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN**

In Expressive Arts and Design, the children will explore creativity through music, art and role play. They will make music using instruments, learning to keep a rhythm and change sounds to represent different animals. In art, children will create work inspired by Van Gogh's sunflowers, using a variety of materials to explore colour and texture, including collage and printing with fruit and vegetables. Role play opportunities, such as farm shops and small world play, will allow children to use their imagination and act out their experiences.





**BOOKS**

- What the Ladybird Heard
- Dora's Chicks
- Look What I Found
- On the Farm
- Milly Cow Makes Milk

Each half term we will also cover a traditional tale. this term it is:

Chicken Licken

And a whole lot of reading for reading for pleasure!

"A book is a dream that you hold in your hand." – Neil Gaiman

**KEY VOCABULARY**

- Farm
- Chick
- Egg
- Hatch
- Grow
- Animal
- Farmer
- Food
- Milk
- Plant

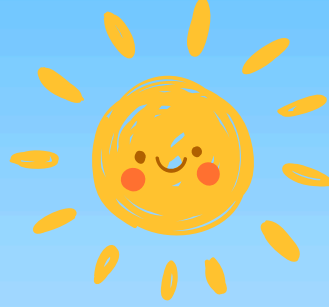
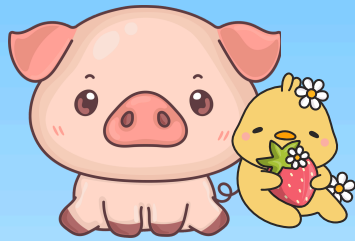
**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April - Living Eggs arrive
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May- School Closed ( May Day)
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May- Friday 15 May- Book Fair
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup>-Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Curiosity Week Focussing on Music, Arts, Dance and Drama.
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Last day of Summer Term 1 st
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - Return to school.

**KEY QUESTIONS**

- Where does our food come from?
- What do animals need to live and grow?
- What happens when a chick hatches from an egg?
- How do things change as they grow?
- How can we care for animals and plants?





## THINGS I CAN DO AT HOME

- Talk about where food comes from when shopping or cooking together (e.g. milk, eggs, vegetables).
- Read farm or animal stories together and ask your child to recall what happened.
- Practise counting everyday objects (toys, snacks, steps) and recognising numbers in the environment.
- Encourage mark making through drawing, painting or using apps on a tablet.
- Visit a local farm or look at animals when out and about, talking about what they need to live.
- Sing nursery rhymes and songs together, especially those with actions like Old McDonald.
- Give your child small responsibilities, such as helping to water plants or tidy up.
- Talk about changes over time (e.g. growing plants, cooking food, changes in the weather).

## THE IMPORTANCE OF NURSERY RHYMES

I will use this section each time to give some ideas on things you can do to help at home.

Nursery rhymes are a really important part of early learning as they help children to develop their language, listening and memory skills in a fun and engaging way. By singing rhymes regularly, children begin to hear patterns in words, recognise sounds and build a strong foundation for early reading and phonics. The repetition and rhythm also support children's confidence, helping them to join in, remember words and express themselves. In addition, nursery rhymes often include actions, which help to develop coordination and make learning even more meaningful and enjoyable.



**Singing and Rhymes**  
What you can do

Sing to your child, even if you don't think you sound great your child will love hearing the sound of your voice!

You can sing anywhere and anytime – no toys necessary!

You can sing about anything. Use familiar tunes with words about everyday activities. For example, "Here we go round the mulberry bush" can become "This is the way we wash our hands".

Take part in 'World Nursery Rhyme Week' coming up in a few weeks. Find their Facebook page or visit their website for more information and FREE resources!

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**Singing and Rhymes**  
Why are they important?

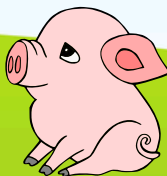
Songs and rhymes can help with speech sound development!

They help children develop auditory skills such as discriminating between sounds.

Most nursery rhymes rhyme. Rhyming is one of the building block skills for phonological awareness. Studies show that rhyming can be taught early, and children as young as 3 years can generate rhyming words.

Singing songs and rhymes can help children to articulate words, modulate their voice (by practising pitch, volume, and inflection) and enunciate clearly by saying them over and over.

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**Singing and Rhymes**  
Why are they important?

Songs and rhymes are beneficial for language learning!

They usually contain 3 key elements: repetition, rhythm and rhyme. This makes them valuable language teaching tools.

Songs and rhymes can help your child's vocabulary to develop. They can also provide an excellent language model for your child as they hear the construction of phrases and sentences and start to understand the way our language needs to be 'set up'.

Songs and rhymes can build auditory memory skills.

Nursery rhymes are usually short stories following a clear sequence of events. They each tell a tale with a beginning, a middle and an end.

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**Singing and Rhymes**  
What you can do

Match the song to your child's mood. Sing an upbeat song if they are happy and a quiet song if they are tired or upset.

It's okay to repeat the same songs if your child likes them... repetition is good!

Make it fun! Use actions as you sing and change how your voice sounds. You can use puppets or related toys, e.g. animals when singing 'Old MacDonald'. Try pausing to see if your child fills the gap!

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