



Curriculum News - Autumn One - October 2026

Lots of exciting learning has taken place across the curriculum with a focus on the Prime Areas of Learning, which are Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication & Language and Physical Development.

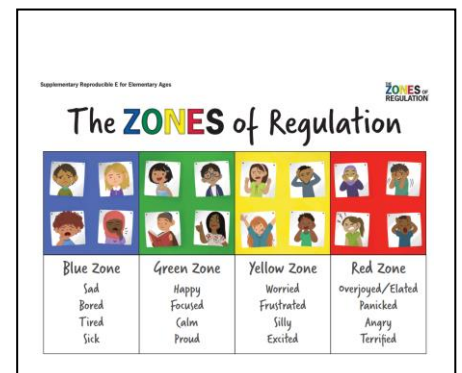
Personal, Social & Emotional Development

The children continue to settle in well and are managing their arrival at nursery with increasing confidence and independence. Our returning children have helped support our new children to adapt to the nursery routine.

We have been focussing on the children's self- help and self-care skills. As a staff team, we continue to encourage the children's independence and confidence.

The children are beginning to form friendships with each other, learning how to communicate and negotiate during their play.

We have introduced and reminded our returning children, about the Zones of Regulation, which can help the children to self-regulate, by managing their sensory and emotional needs.



Communication & Language

This half term, we have been concentrating on language linked to the daily routine, such as gathering, and story time. We have also taught the children simple Makaton language such as toilet, home and help. Many of the daily Makaton words we use, have been sent home recently in their book bags.

The children have been developing their listening, attention and turn taking skills in a range of ways, through engaging in our Listening Time activities, which occurs daily at **9.15am** and **1.15pm**. Listening Time is our early phonics activity, where the children are encouraged to differentiate environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, explore body percussion and voice sounds.

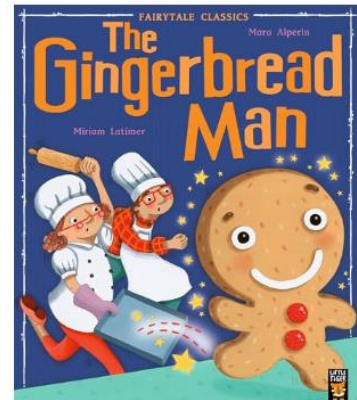
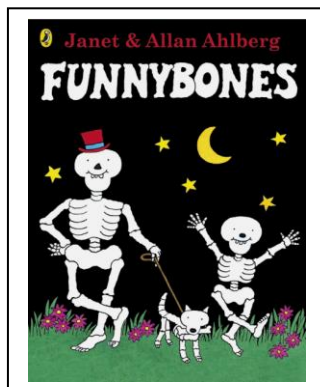
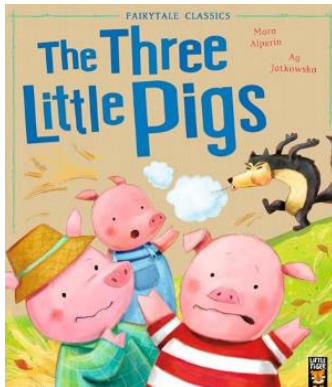
We have also explored subject specific language linked to the topics we have been learning about, such as harvest and farms, spooky stories, all about me and creative arts.

Physical Development

The children have been exploring the garden and developing their gross motor and spatial awareness skills, through a range of activities. One such activity involved the children carrying wheelbarrows around a circuit. This week for our spooky stories, the children have had to navigate a giant spider's web, by travelling over, under and through string of different heights.

We support the development of fine motor skills by using mark-making tools, such as, pens, pencils, paintbrushes and chalk, to write or create artistic pieces. Some children have also engaged in threading and observational painting.

The children's toileting skills are developing well. Please remember that loose clothes are advised to promote independence, for example, jogging bottoms and elasticated waist bands. Your child should wear clothes they can pull up and down, by themselves. All children need **named** spare clothes in their lockers, just in case.



Literacy

Since the beginning of term, we have been reading Traditional Tales, such as the Three Little Pigs, the Gingerbread Man and Little Red Riding Hood. We have also read information texts about harvest, farms, oral health, self-care and spooky stories.

To encourage a love of reading, all children have been given a reading book to take home and share. Books are changed throughout the year. Each key group are given the same book. Please return your reading book, yellow reading record and book bag to receive another.

For Creative Arts Fortnight, we read information books and artist profiles. We also used information books and resources to find out about harvests and farms, around the world.

Mathematics

Knowing the daily schedule and times activities occur have helped the children settle. Our visual timetable is useful to show children when different things are happening. We have used our theme of traditional tales to investigate size and the number three.

During the last week of term, we focussed on looking at 2D and 3D shapes. Our harvest and farms topic allowed for the exploration of harvest fruit and vegetables. We used traditional measuring scales for the children to compare weights.

The children have also had lots of opportunity to count a variety of objects, in a range of contexts to identify numerals 0 to 5.



Understanding the World

In Understanding the World, we have been learning about harvest, linking our discussions to how food is grown and where it comes from. The children also enjoyed exploring a range of harvest foods using their senses. The role of the farmer was also discussed in depth.

As it is the first half term of a new school year, we have been establishing a sense of community, with children getting to know their peers and their key person. This has been achieved through key group time, gatherings and story times.

Expressive Arts and Design

The focus for Creative Arts, this year was self-portraits. We talked about famous portrait artists such as Van Gogh and Leonardo DaVinci.

In preparation for Diwali, on 8th November, we looked at and attempted to recreate Rangoli patterns, using the 2simple program, on the interactive whiteboard.

Through their weekly music sessions, the new children have been getting to know Evon and joining in with learning new songs.

In the Music area, we have seen and heard the banging of drums, the shaking of bells and the tapping of a xylophone, as the children familiarise themselves with the music area.

We set up a stage with scarves and microphones during Creative Arts Fortnight, for the children to express themselves.

