

Our Learning

ECO ACTIVITIES - MAY & JUNE

Mini-beasts in the environment i.e. in the garden, town and seaside.

We will investigate colour, pattern and markings on butterfly wings, ladybird spots and snail shells.

How it moves – will it crawl, slide or hop.

Physical attributes – legs, wings, shell, and antennae.

Where it lives – on a flower, in a bush or under the stones.

What it eats.

Follow up science – we will observe the life cycle of the butterfly - from caterpillar to butterfly.



OBSERVING

By watching carefully, we can see what our insects do. We will use our permanent magnifying post in the garden.

We can look at reference books to find out where they live.

Look out for a snail's trail, a spider's web and check for ladybirds in our bug hotel.

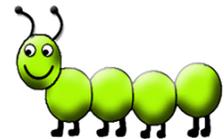


We will: -

Watch our caterpillars grow

Look at our seeds and plants growing

Continue to plant flowers / seeds in our outdoor garden.



We have ordered live caterpillars - we will watch them 'grow' into butterflies in our butterfly tent and we will release them on a warm day when they have emerged from their chrysalis.

Encourage positive attitudes towards mini-beasts in order to help your child to appreciate the wonders of the insect world. We have a 'bug hotel' in our Eco garden to encourage insects to visit and stay!

TOPIC: GROWTH

Observe the seeds we planted to see how they change – from shoots to leaves and stems to flowers. Encourage your child to plant seeds at home – nasturtiums are colourful and simple to grow. Observe growth by comparing height. Small/tall. How tall? Taller than, shorter than, the same height. Children will take home the bean plants that they planted in early May.



COLOUR THEMES

We will focus on various colours in our art and craft work and mix colours to make a new colour.

PETS

We will learn that some animals live at home with us e.g. cats, dogs, goldfish, and rabbits. We will invite the children to talk about pets at home, how they care for them, what kind of food do they eat? And where do they live?



BIG BEASTS – DINOSAURS

Through our small world play and use of model dinosaurs we will be learning about pre-historic life and 'The age of the Dinosaurs'. Characteristics of size, many shapes, tails, wings, teeth and skin and food preferences: Carnivores – meat eaters, Herbivores – vegetation, plants and leaves and Omnivores – meat / plant eaters. We will share ideas on how they became EXTINCT.

MATHEMATICAL EXPERIENCES

We learn to count and sort for shape, colour and type e.g. those insects which can fly and those insects which cannot fly. We will also be making comparisons.

We will be naming morning, afternoon, evening and days of the week.

We want the children to know each day and name but we may be a bit young yet for remembering the order, so please help by reinforcing at home.

We have identified circle, square, triangle and rectangle, so please continue to look out for these shapes at home and also in our environment.

E.g. a clock face is a circle
some traffic signs are triangular
our door is a rectangle
some windows may be square



It's fun to look around and discuss these shapes.

We will practice the following skills: -

Counting and matching and using one – to – one correspondence when laying the table.

Counting and sorting skills.

Looking at shape, size, texture and colour.

Making repeating patterns and continuing patterns.



PRE-WRITING SKILLS

We will continue to take part in activities to support pre-writing skills. These will help strengthen your child's hand muscles and support them in how to hold and use a pencil properly. If writing out your child's name at home only use upper case for the 1st letter – lower case for all other letters. We will also be learning how to recognise the shape of our names.

REMEMEBER: KEEP SAFE IN THE SUN



Drink lots of water
Use a high factor sun block – APPLIED BEFORE SCHOOL DAILY
Wear a sunhat & cover up with a T-Shirt
Use sunglasses

DEVELOPMENT OF PLAY

We are encouraging concentration in play, persistence and perseverance at activities and determination to finish a task. Interaction and willingness to share equipment and resources will continue to be encouraged.

REMINDERS



School Photographs

Children's individual and class photographs will be taken on Wednesday 4th May 2022. Family photographs can be arranged in the morning from 8.30am – please book a slot with Mrs McAllister.

Parent and Child trip to the Farm – Date: 11th May

We are going to Springvale farm on Wednesday 11th May. This is a parent and child trip – **all children MUST BE accompanied by 1 family member**. The cost of the trip is £17 per child and parent - the school will cover the cost of the trip through the snack fund.

Parents and children should arrive at the school at 9.50am. The bus will leave at 10am and arrive in Springvale at 10.30am. Parents will accompany their child around the farm. A packed lunch will be provided for your child. You may want to bring a snack for your child and a lunch for yourself. The bus will take us back at 1pm and you will be dropped back at the school by 1.30pm.

Early Morning Drop Off – from 8.35am – 9am (limited places available)

We are offering parents in employment and education an early drop off in school from 8.35am at a cost of £1 per day. We have approximately 10 places which will be allocated on a first come first served basis. In order to make this programme sustainable, bookings must be paid monthly in advance. No refunds can be given for days absent.

May – 20 days x £1 = **£20** paid by Wednesday 27th April

June – 19 days x £1 = **£18** paid by Wednesday 25th May

- Please supply a box of tissues and 1 packet of anti-bacterial wipes, and 1 bottle of hand soap for the third term if you have not done so already. Thank you.
- Please ensure your child has a change of clothes in their bag in the children's bathroom.
- Inform staff immediately of changes to address / telephone numbers (this is vital in order to update records and to ensure you receive text messages from the nursery).
- Please pay dinner / snack money on Monday, try to have the **correct** money placed in your named envelope. Inaccuracies occur when money is paid late.
- As the days become warmer children will be removing their jumpers. Please ensure all jumpers are identified with your child's name. If not clearly labelled the jumpers will be placed in a 'Lost Property' basket.
- Please ensure that sun cream is applied on hot days before attending school, staff are unable to apply or re-apply sun cream due to the possibility of allergies.

PREPARATION FOR PRIMARY ONE

Starting primary school is a very exciting step in a child's life. Please see below some simple and fun everyday activities to support your child so that they can start school healthy, happy, active, curious and sociable.



- *Encourage your child to become independent* with everyday tasks such as dressing, handwashing, blowing their nose, using a knife and fork and toileting.
- *Practice social skills with your child* e.g. sharing through simple games such as snakes and ladders, taking turns in conversations.
- *Help your child get ready for reading and writing.* Help them recognise their name. Read to your child to improve their vocabulary, listening skills and their understanding. Develop their motor skills - as this will help develop their hand strength and hand-eye co-ordination which are key to helping your children learn to write and draw. Also encourage the recognition of numbers at home and in the environment.



Our home learning section on our website contains various information to help prepare your child for P1 including support with fine motor skills, pencil grip and songs

<https://www.victorianursery.org.uk/home-learning/?class=9>

HOME LEARNING

Our website has many ideas and activities for you to extend your child's learning at home. Please click on <https://www.victorianursery.org.uk/home-learning/>.

Our electronic devices lending scheme will continue this month. Children will be given an electronic device for a weekend once a month to extend learning. Instructions about how to use the device and keep in safe will be included in the bag.

Every two weeks your child will be given a 'Lending Library Bag' to enhance our promotion of Language and Literacy in the curriculum. The bags will be distributed on Thursday afternoons and should be returned the following Wednesday morning; this will give you ample time to share the books over the week. Each bag will contain 5 books and a plastic folder with photographs of the books to help you to collate them for their return to school.



Every child was given a home learning bag at the beginning of the term with various activities as part of our Getting ready to Learn Programme. Links and other information have been sent via Seesaw. This bag is to be kept at home to be used at your leisure and can also be in the case of school absence.

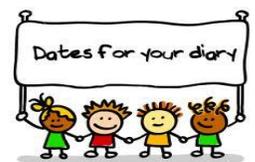
You can follow our **High 5 positive behaviour programme** focusing on Play, Praise, Commands, Rewards and Consequences. Links to webinars and content can be found on our website <https://victorianursery.org.uk/parents/high-5-positive-behaviour-programme/>. It is vital that we work together to support children to display positive behaviour so they have a successful school experience.

Transition Reports

End of term reports will be given in mid-June to parents whose children are transferring to primary school. A copy will also be forwarded to your child's school. If you would like to talk to me regarding your child's progress please contact me to arrange a telephone appointment.

ILLNESS

Thank you for keeping your child at home when they are unwell. We wish to remind parents that children should not return to school before they have fully recovered.



If your child has COVID symptoms your child should NOT come to school. Please follow PHA guidelines.

It is everyone's responsibility in our school community to protect our children, staff and families.

In the case of vomiting and diarrhoea – only when full sleeping and eating patterns have been re-established and your child is in good form. In the case of any vomiting and diarrhoea – *48 hours must have elapsed AFTER the last episode of diarrhoea* before any child may safely return to school. For example, if your child had diarrhoea on Tuesday evening they should not return to school until Friday morning.

School Routines

In order to keep the children safe all pupils should be assisted to wash their hands by a family member on arrival. Children wash their hands in school before each transition.

School windows and doors are open to allow for adequate ventilation in the room. CO2 monitors are in use in our school.

If children become unwell whilst in school we will isolate them and contact parents immediately.

Children will be reminded to practice good respiratory hygiene and will be encouraged to be independent in all school tasks.

Parents will be informed of any COVID-19 cases in school as nursery school pupils and staff are considered close contacts.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May bank holiday closures

The school will be closed on 2nd May and 2nd, 3rd and 6th June

End of term

The children will finish school on Thursday 30th June at 11.30am (Pick up 11.15-11.30am)