



## St Mary's Nursery, Writhlington

Welcome to Autumn Term 1!  
We hope you all had a lovely summer.

We are very proud of how all of the new children have settled in, and it's lovely to see some familiar faces too!

### Topic

Our topic this term is  
'I am Special!'



We will be celebrating what makes all the lovely children in our nursery so unique. This topic gives us the opportunity to learn all about them, and they'll learn a lot about us too!

### What does my child need during a nursery session?

- book bag and reading record
- **at least** one set of spare uniform, including socks please!
- nappies/wipes if toilet training
- bottle filled with **water only**
- a waterproof coat/sun hat and sun cream (weather dependent)
- wellies & all in one wet weather suit that can stay at Nursery please!

**Please ensure all items are clearly labelled with your child's name!**

### Lunches

Please do not allow your child to bring any chocolate or sweets in their lunchbox – we are a healthy school, and we want to encourage healthy eating – thank you!  
Alternatively, you can now order a hot school dinner via Parent Pay. They are £2.65 per meal unless you are entitled to Free School Meals. If you think you may be entitled, please speak to a member of staff for more information.

### Phonics

This year in phonics, we are offering the children a range of different activities with a real focus on building vocabulary. We have two year groups in our nursery, the younger children are grouped as N1s (starting school in 2025) and the older children are grouped as N2s (starting school in 2024). This term, the N1 group will be invited to play listening and attention games involving environmental sounds. The N2s will be invited to engage in activities involving body percussion, and rhythm and rhyme. There is opportunity for all children to engage in these activities as they are fun and playful, and they enhance learning.

As part of phonics, we always learn a nursery rhyme each week, and this term we will be learning 'I've Got a Body', 'Humpty, Dumpty Sat on a Wall', 'We're All Special' and many more. We encourage the children to share these rhymes with you at home, so please support them by singing along too.

### Literacy

We will be sharing a number of key texts this term. The children really enjoy our 'together time' on the carpet, and so do the practitioners! The key texts this term are 'Our Class is a Family', 'The Proudest Blue', 'All Are Welcome', 'What Happened to You?', 'The Colour Monster', and 'Spooky Rumpus'.

### Reading

During this week, we will be issuing your child with a reading book and a reading record (just like they will have at school). We share these books together at nursery at least once a week, and we invite you to share this book at home with your child, talking about the pictures and learning new words. They are **not** expected to read the book, or the words inside of the reading record (although some may want to and may be able to!). Please ensure your child is bringing their reading record and book to **every** session they attend. We will change their books every week and your child will get to choose the book. This is the beginning of their exciting reading journey.

### Other Information

Parents/Carers & Key Practitioner meetings are being held the week commencing Monday 9<sup>th</sup> of October. This is an opportunity to meet with your child's Key Practitioner and discuss your child's development and progress. Further details about days/times and how to make an appointment will be available soon on Class Dojo.

We will also be learning and performing a song/dance in our Harvest Celebration on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October! Please look out for more details on Class Dojo.

### Mathematics

In Maths this term, we will be learning about matching and sorting. We also learn a number song each week. Listen out for 'My Special Face', '10 Tall Fingers', '1, 2 Buckle My Shoe', 'The Children Go Marching 1 by 1', 'Hickory Dickory Dock', and many more. The children really enjoy singing and acting out the songs!

### Tapestry and Class Dojo

Thank you to (almost) everyone for signing up to Class Dojo and Tapestry. If you haven't yet – please ensure that you do as soon as possible (and if you need some help, please speak to one of us)!

**Tapestry** is our **assessment portal**. We will be uploading photos regularly, and a learning summary once every 'big' term (Christmas, Easter, and Summer). You are welcome to add photos and tell us about what your child is doing at home too!

**Class Dojo** is our **communication platform**. We will send notices on the class 'story', and you can message directly too - it really is great for communication and information.

### Outdoor Learning

As always, Little Acorns will be spending a lot of time in the great outdoors. Once our new children have settled in, we will be outside in the conservation area a few times a week (on the school grounds) and taking part in 'forest school' based activities. These include stories, exploration, nature trails and even a small campfire! We request that all children come with the appropriate clothing (wellies, wet weather suit, spare uniform) – we are aiming to go outside in all weather conditions!

