St. Paul's C of E VA Primary and Nursery School

Walk On Water

Head Teacher: Miss M. A. Cohen

Nursery

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Autumn 1 2026

A very warm welcome or welcome back to Nursery!
We are very much looking forward to getting to know you and your child this year. This newsletter is to keep you informed about the curriculum we will be covering this half term in order for you to support, encourage and talk with your child.



Phonics

The phonics focus in Nursery will be on developing children's awareness of sounds through games and nursery rhymes. This half term we will use nursery rhymes to explore sounds in the world around us, voice sounds, rhyme, syllables and hearing sounds at the beginning of words through alliteration.



Reading

The children will listen to and join in with stories, rhymes and poems on a daily basis and they can explore the reading area independently, learning to handle the books and turn the pages carefully. They will also be able to bring a book home from the class to read at home with you later in the half term.
Please do share your own books and stories regularly at home with your child and visit your local library. Talk to them about what's happening in the pictures, what will happen next and what they liked about the story. Children love repetition and hearing the same rhymes and stories over again. As a story becomes familiar to your child, you could encourage them to join in with the repeated words or act it out to you.

Literacy

We will have a focus book each week related to our topic or the children's interests. We will let you know in the weekly bulletin what that book will be. There will be activities planned around this book. We will be encouraging the children to listen to and join in with repeated refrains in rhymes and stories as well as talk about the key events and phrases and their favourite parts. The children will begin to learn to recognise their names through daily self-registration and they will explore mark making using a variety of tools and mediums.

Maths

The children will be learning to compare amounts of objects using language such as more, less, same, smallest, largest. They will explore shapes, select shapes for a reason and will place shapes in the correct position, such as in a puzzle. They will join in with patterns in rhymes and stories and will use objects to make line patterns. Finally, they will hear and say number names in order through songs and counting.



RE

This half term we will be thinking about Christianity and why God is so important to Christians. We will explore Bible stories and talk about them.

MESSAGES

- **Please ensure all uniform is named.**
- Remember to wear PE t-shirt, shorts/joggers, trainers and your school jumper/cardigan for PE on Mondays.
- Parent or grandparent help in class is always appreciated. Please let us know if you can support in any way.
- Don't forget to have wellies and coats in school for woodland activities and outdoor learning!
- Throughout the year please do come and talk to us if you have any questions, concerns or if we can help in any way.

Understanding the World

This half term, our topic is 'All About Me'. We will be talking about ourselves, how we are similar and different to each other, our families and things we like to do. We will be encouraging the children to talk about the environment around them using their senses. Topics will be adapted based on the children's interests.



Expressive Arts and Design

We sing songs, nursery rhymes and listen to pieces of music daily. We also have music sessions encouraging listening and participation. Children have opportunities to create in their play using a variety of objects and mediums. This half term they will learn to draw lines to enclose a space in order to make a self portrait and they will explore printing using natural materials.

Physical Development

Each day there will be lots of opportunities for the children to develop their fine and gross motor skills through movement inside the class and in the outside areas. Each morning the children will participate in a 'Busy Fingers' activity to develop the strength in the muscles in their hands ready for writing. We will encourage the children to use scissors and to hold a pencil correctly using the 'pinch and flip' method. PE will be on a Monday morning once the children have settled.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Our focus this half term is for the children to get to know each other and to become happily settled in Nursery. We will explore the resources in the nursery with the children, encouraging them to select what they would like to play with and how they want to play with it. We will provide opportunities for the children to learn to talk, listen, share and co-operate when playing with others. They will begin to learn about our school rules and why these are important.

KEY DATES FOR NURSERY

Show and Tell will be on a **Monday** this term once the children have settled.

Friday 18th September— EYFS curriculum workshop at 9am.

Wednesday 23rd September - Phonics workshop at 6pm

Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October— Parent Consultations

Tuesday 20th October— Farm visit.
Please let us know if you are able to come with us.