

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been fantastic to have most of the Nursery children in during the last half term and we look forward to welcoming back those that have been working from home. It has been fantastic to see all your efforts with home learning, especially seeing all of the science experiments! We hope that you have had a restful holiday and are ready and raring to tackle the new half term and our new topic of plants and life cycles.

**Reading:** We are hoping to start our lending library in Nursery. Your child will have chance to choose a book in Nursery to bring home and read. There will be a reading record sheet in which we will record the book your child is taking. Then each week your child will choose a new book to bring home. It would be fantastic if you could talk to your child about the book, take turns in reading it, your child could tell you what they see in the pictures and tell their own version of the story. More information about this will be in the red news books.



**Prime Areas:** There will be a big focus on the children's mental health and well being. We will be talking about feelings and how we can look after ourselves. We will look at ways to overcome fears and anxieties.

**RE:** In RE, we are learning about Easter and Holy Week through the story, The Hungry Caterpillar. We will enjoy looking after caterpillars and watching them develop into beautiful butterflies. We will link the development of the caterpillars to key events in Holy week for example when the caterpillar turns into a butterfly we will look at how this links to new life and Jesus being resurrected.



**English:** In English we will look at the story 'Jaspers beanstalk'. We will link this to planting our own bean plant in Nursery and learn how to take care of the plant, what it needs to grow and observe the changes in the plant. As part of phonics, we are now introducing phase 2 and a sound of the week, starting with 'S'.

**Maths:** In Maths we will continue to look at a number and a shape of the week. We will also continue to look at positional language, size, weighing and measuring, categorising objects in different ways and matching numeral to quantity.

**Understanding the World:** Linked to our English focus, we will look at plants more closely, we will observe growth of the plant and talk about the changes we see. We will also look at the Chinese New year—learning about why it is celebrated and how. We will also look at the importance of Easter.



**Expressive Arts and Design:** We will create Chinese New Year crafts such as lanterns, making an ox and making a Chinese stir fry by chopping our own vegetables. We will also make some Easter crafts.

**Other news:** As you will be aware through the letter that was sent out, I (Miss Marlborough) am now shielding. I am working from home and so if anyone wants to contact me, this can be done through the Nursery email which is checked daily, or if you let the office or Nursery staff know that you would like to speak to me, I can ring you to discuss any matters you wish. I am in constant contact with the Nursery staff and will make sure that the children still get to see me, I will record myself reading a story to the children each week. Mrs Morgan will be in Nursery Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Akam will be in on Thursday and Friday. If you have any questions, then please ask.

Thank you for your continued support especially during these challenging times.

Miss Marlborough and the Nursery team