

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our Summer Term newsletter. We have enjoyed a wonderful and energetic start to the term and it is heartening to see such strong friendships blossoming in the Nursery.

### Topic of the Term: Splish, Splash, Splosh!

This term, our learning is diving into everything water-related! Under the theme "Splish, Splash, Splash," the children will explore the fascinating world of water – from its different forms (solid, liquid, gas) to the water cycle and even how water plays a part in lifecycles and transformations. Through hands-on activities, stories and experiments we will be encouraging curiosity and deepening their understanding of the world around them.

# Celebrations and Special Days

We began the term with a burst of colour as the children decorated their bikes and scooters for **King's Day**. Our **Run4Us charity run** was a huge success too. The children showed incredible determination and spirit, running multiple laps around the grounds to raise money for a great cause. **Shakespeare week** was a lovely celebration of drama, poems and the children really enjoyed making wishes in the wishing well and going to look for the fairies hiding around the school. The highlight of course, was dressing up as different characters from the different Shakespeare plays. We are also looking forward to our **Wet and Wild Day** with Reception, where children will take part in several exciting water-based activities – perfect for reinforcing our term's theme and having fun with friends.

## Language & Communication

Our Curiosity Cottage has become a hub of discovery and discussion. The children are asking thoughtful "what," "why," "how," and "when" questions, learning to differentiate between these questions and practising on how to respond appropriately. It is wonderful to see their confidence and communication skills grow. Through role-play, the children are stepping into different characters and scenarios, using imaginative language to express themselves, negotiate roles, and develop storytelling skills. In construction play, children are not only building with blocks and loose parts but also strengthening their vocabulary as they plan, design and work collaboratively on their creations. Children develop confidence in speaking and listening as they explore their environment, share discoveries and engage in group activities that spark conversation and critical thinking. Our tadpoles have become the star attraction and the children have been actively watching the life cycle of a frog in action. Talking of life cycles, the arrival of the much-awaited duck eggs created quite a stir and the children were so excited to see the ducklings hatch.

#### **Phonics Focus**

Many of the children are really coming into their own with phonics, confidently identifying letter sounds and beginning to blend them into simple CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words. Their early reading skills are coming on so well. Meanwhile, others are enjoying lots of singing, rhyme time, and learning to recognise their names and the letters within them – a key foundation for future success in phonics.

#### **Maths Moments**

From counting games to exploring sizes and shapes, children are building strong early mathematical skills. Children are also deepening their understanding of quantities and numerals and are doing a great job at distinguishing between 2D and 3D shapes using visual aids and hands-on exploration.

### **Forest School Adventures**

Forest School has been full of excitement! With new equipment chosen by Mrs Lydia the children are enjoying den making, water play, and even hammering. These sessions offer a wonderful opportunity to develop fine motor skills, problem-solving abilities and a love for the great outdoors.

# Sports & Movement

Preparations for Sports Day are well underway. The children are practising different exercises and games to build upon their balance, coordination, stamina and core strength. They have been working so hard. In Dance with Mrs. Lea, the children are embarking on imaginative adventures while exploring rhythm and movement.







We are looking forward to a happy and enriching rest of the term with 'a little splashing' along the way!



### Understanding the world, why is it important?

Young children learn about the world by using all of their senses. According to child development expert Jean Piaget, children are natural explorers who learn best by 'doing' through hands-on experiences and learning from trial and error. Our topic this term will help the children engage in different activities that will enhance their learning about the world around them.

The environment your child is in can have a big impact on how they grow and learn. When children have the freedom to take risks, be creative, and explore both indoors and outdoors, it supports their development in powerful ways.

Play isn't just fun—it's a vital part of learning. Through play, children make connections, solve problems, and learn to cooperate with others. They begin to link past experiences to new ones and figure out what might happen next. By interacting fully with their environment, children gain the knowledge and skills they need to grow and thrive.

# A few suggestions to help your child at home

Maps and globes: Use local maps, draw your own, or look at the world map. Any map-related activity helps children begin to understand the world's vastness. You may want to use a spherical globe to spin and choose a country to research; to make it more interesting use Google Maps and Google Earth.

Get Green: Planting seeds is more than just a fun, sensory activity. It requires good listening skills, cooperation with others and a foundation understanding of what it takes to look after growing things. Watercress is our suggestion; it grows quickly and is easy to grow!

Story stones- collect some stones when you are out and about. Stick pictures of different things on your stones, such as animals, planets, rain and thunder etc. Put them in a small box or bag. Invite your child to pick a stone and tell you everything they know about that animal or planet etc. Go through books or watch videos related to the picture they picked to add to their existing knowledge.







**Best wishes** 

Nursery team