

# Nursery Spring Newsletter



## “Biodiversity” in Early Years

### What is Biodiversity?

Biodiversity is the variety of all species of animals, insects, plants and people found on our planet, and it includes the geographical locations in which these species are found.

Biodiversity prevents any one species from throwing the balance of nature out of sync; sadly, a significant part of human behaviour over time has done this and is now putting our planet at risk. Human behaviours have influenced things like; extinction of certain species, pollution, the deforestation and the destruction of different animal and plant habitats and are only some of the different ways that humans are threatening biodiversity.

It is important that young children understand that they can increase biodiversity and know that this is needed to sustain life on earth.

### How can we help?

It is important to support children's understanding of being active participants in looking after the place they live by increasing biodiversity. Research in early development has shown that by five years old, many of the children's values will already have been formed, making the early years an important period to teach children about biodiversity.

### We can:

- Support children's understanding about the food that the children may eat. How different foods like rice and wheat are grown, inviting children to explore a range of foods, fruits, vegetables, pulses and grains, talking about where and how they are grown.
- Invite children to help create a compost heap. Instead of throwing away the fruit/vegetable's peelings from their snack/lunch times, show children how they can help re-fertilise soil.
- Invite children to sort through recyclable materials and explore different materials like plastics, paper, and natural waste. Doing this as part of everyday practice will help children understand its importance and significance to increasing biodiversity.
- Invite children to be part of the process of collecting rainwater, which they can then use to water the plants in their garden.
- Teach children the importance of insects like bees to spread pollen and help plant growth. Invite children to plant flowers and plants that will encourage insects like bees to come, help pollination and further flower and plant growth.

## 'Biodiversity'

### Competition

We currently have a Biodiversity area in our nursery garden.

The children will be learning about living things, such as bees, birds, and plants and growing.

We would like the children to design a poster promoting this area.

Please come up with a colourful design that promotes "Biodiversity" and the winning posters will be displayed in the nursery garden.

Please ensure your child completes the poster by themselves (with a little help from an adult).

**The Competition closing date is**  
**MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023**



## Reminders

**UNIFORM:** uniform is part of the school, it is important that children are wearing school uniform daily. Any child not wearing school uniform will get a note in their diary. Please speak to Miss Simmonds if this is a problem.

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance is important for the children's development. All children need to be learning consistently in order for them to progress to the next level.

**TOYS, FOOD:** Please do not allow children to bring in toys or food from home. We have children with life threatening allergies, and we need to ensure we keep them safe. Fruit and milk are provided by the school. We are unable to monitor food that has been bought in by children. We cannot look after your children's toys from home, please check your child's bag to ensure that they are not bringing in their own toys. If these are broken or lost, we cannot take responsibility.

**WATER:** It is important that all children bring in water not juice. Water is an important part of a Healthy Diet. Please talk to your child about bringing in water. I can ensure that children will drink water if they see their friend drinking it.

## What we will be learning in the Spring Term

In the spring term, we will be learning about **People Who Help Us:** Doctors and Nurses, Firefighters and Police. We will also be looking at who helps us at school.

In spring term 2, we will be learning about the **Lifecycles** of plants and insects.

We will be having the real-life experience of watching ducklings hatch and thinking about how we will look after living things. We will also be growing plants and vegetables, looking after them over time, and watching how they develop.

**In maths we will be:** Comparing 2D and 3D shapes, make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity, discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.

**In Literacy:** We will be looking at non-fiction books and comparing them to fiction books. We will be introducing a sound of the week, from phase 2, learning more initial sounds and developing our pencil control to help us to form recognisable letters.