

Wider Curriculum

Our wider curriculum will be led by science and art. We begin studying how people grow using photographs of our teachers and families to show change. This expands to looking at other, similar animals and then more unusual changes like the growth of a tadpole into a frog.

After half term, we will change our focus to understanding how plants change with time and what plants need to grow up healthily. Throughout the term the children will practice drawing and painting animals and plants with increasing purpose and accuracy.

Notes for Parents

What you can Do at Home

We will send home a 'Foundation Stage 1 News' leaflet every week to let you know some of the things we are focusing on in nursery: shape of the week, rhymes, key vocabulary and stories. Talk to your children about these things to help deepen and broaden their learning at home as well as at nursery.

Reading

Stories are one of the most valuable and enjoyable ways to help your children learn. They help to expand your children's vocabulary and, in turn, improve their chances of success in later life. Read as many stories as you can at home!

Important Dates

Stay and Read: All parents are welcome to join us every **Wednesday** for the first fifteen minutes of the session to share stories with the children.

Seed Planting: On **Wednesday 6th March**, you are invited to plant a seed to take home with your children. We will also have a chance to plant some new flowers in our outdoor area. We will send more information out closer to the time.

Class Information Sheet

Foundation Stage 1



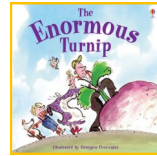
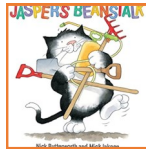
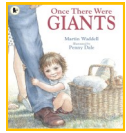
Spring Term—How We Grow

A happy welcome to all the new friends that have joined us this January. Our community has grown and it wonderful to see all the new children settling in with our older friends.

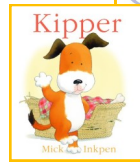
Topic Home Support Sheet

Key Texts

Four stories will be at the core of our curriculum this term. We will focus on each story for three weeks, allowing the children to really unpick the plot, the characters and with a new focus on sequencing the story:



In addition, the children will explore books written by this term's two key authors: **Lynley Dodd** and **Mick Inkpen**.



Language in Colour

Language in Colour is a programme we use to help children understand words and to start building sentences. Each word group is represented by a different colour and this term the children will continue to learn about **orange**, **yellow** and **purple** words.

Orange Words: Who? Person, animal or character.

Yellow Words: What doing? Things we do.

Purple Words: Objects. Things you can touch.

Key Vocabulary

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|--------|---|
| Animal | A living thing that can move around by themselves to find food. |
| Plant | A living thing that uses sunlight make food. Most plants have leaves, stems, roots and flowers. |
| Grow | Getting bigger or older. |
| Cycle | A circle of events that repeats again and again. |
| Baby | A very young animal, including people. When babies learn to walk we call them toddlers. |
| Child | A young animal, including people, who is older than a baby but younger than an adult. |
| Adult | A grown up animal, including people. |

Phonological Awareness

At Thoresby we follow a phonics programme called *Little Wandle*, but before we teach children to read and write, we teach them to listen for the sounds in our speech. This begins in nursery by listening for the largest units of sound, and then learn to hear smaller and smaller units of sound. The children continue to practise listening for the initial sound in familiar words, including their names, and blending the separate sounds in short words back together. By the end of the Spring term, all children should aim to recognise the first letter in their name and know the matching sound.