

# St. Mary's Church in Wales Primary School

Together we can believe and achieve



## Autumn Term in Nursery

Please find attached a snapshot of the activities which your child will be experiencing this term plus some important information.

### Our Topic / Big Question: Cynefin & Community

PE Kit Day	
Please wear the Emerald green PE t-shirt and black shorts/joggers with suitable footwear (velcro trainers).	Tuesday - Starting 30th September.

Class theme	Cynefin (Belonging) & Community and Seize the Season!
Important Information	<p>Please bring £1 each week for a healthy snack. (£7 for this Half Term).</p> <p>Lending Library will take place each Friday starting after October Half Term - more information will be sent out on Class DOJO in the coming weeks.</p> <p>Please remember to pack a spare change of clothes in children's bags each day.</p> <p>Please remember to send children into school wearing a warm, waterproof coat EVERY DAY.</p> <p>Please remember to send wet weather clothing (puddle suits / waterproof trousers and wellies) into school - it would be best if they could be left in school everyday. We will be enjoying <i>Muddy Monday &amp; Fresh Air Friday!</i></p>

## Belonging

At nursery, we help children feel part of our community and proud of who they are. We do this in a range of ways:

- **Family connections:** Children share family photographs and create simple family trees, helping them see that their home life is valued in nursery.
- **Shared expectations:** Together, we talk about our rules and routines so that children feel safe and know what to expect each day.
- **Exploring emotions:** Through drawing, painting, food art, and natural materials, children make faces that show different feelings, supporting them to understand themselves and others.



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- **Self-expression:** Children take part in drawing activities, which we display to celebrate their individuality and creativity.
- **Familiar routines:** We use a visual timetable to help children feel secure and confident about the routine of the day.
- **Community celebrations:** We mark special events like the Harvest Festival, encouraging children to feel part of wider traditions.
- **Personal learning journey:** Each child has their own mark-making book to capture their progress and celebrate their unique development.

### Well-Being

At nursery, we help children to feel safe, valued and confident, while encouraging them to make healthy choices. Some of the ways we do this include:

- **Healthy eating:** Children enjoy a fresh, healthy snack each day, helping them learn which foods keep our bodies strong and healthy.
- **Learning about our bodies:** We draw around our bodies and label different parts, supporting children to understand themselves better.
- **Staying healthy:** Children work together in Jigsaw activities to explore how we can look after ourselves.
- **Toothbrushing:** We practise brushing our teeth so that children develop good daily habits.
- **Feelings check-ins:** Each day, children share how they are feeling, helping them to recognise and express their emotions.

### Communication

At nursery, we create lots of opportunities for children to build their confidence in communicating:

- **Daily discussions:** During carpet time we talk about feelings, the weather and the days of the week, helping children to share their thoughts and listen to others.
- **A supportive environment:** We ensure children have plenty of chances to express their needs, ideas and feelings in ways that feel comfortable to them.
- **Small group and one-to-one activities:** These sessions give children space to practise speaking and listening at their own pace.



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- **Stories, songs and rhymes:** Every day children enjoy books, songs and rhymes to build their vocabulary and understanding.
- **Retelling stories:** We encourage children to retell stories in their own words, helping them grow in confidence and memory skills.
- **Story sacks:** These resources bring stories to life, making them fun and interactive.
- **Early phonics (RWI):** When children are ready, we introduce Read Write Inc. phonics to help them begin their journey towards recognising sounds and early reading.

### Exploration

Children are naturally curious about the world around them. At nursery, we encourage exploration through hands-on activities that spark imagination and problem-solving skills:

- **Seasonal art:** Children use different creative methods to make artwork inspired by the changing seasons.
- **Construction play:** Using big and small materials, children build homes for animals preparing to hibernate.
- **STEM investigations:** We explore science through activities such as freeing frozen objects and making fizzing mixtures with baking soda, vinegar and pipettes.
- **Mark-making indoors and outdoors:** Children experiment with different tools and resources to develop early writing skills.
- **Number and shape games:** Fun, playful activities help children build mathematical understanding.
- **Forest School:** Outdoor sessions give children time to explore nature, take risks safely and learn in real-life contexts.
- **Nature walks:** We collect leaves, conkers and pine cones while talking about seasonal changes.
- **Harvest baskets:** Children help to create baskets to celebrate Harvest time.
- **Pumpkin exploration:** We use pumpkins for sensory play, art and investigation.



## Physical Development

At nursery, we give children daily opportunities to strengthen both their fine and gross motor skills, building coordination, confidence and a love of being active:

- **Feel Good Friday:** Each week we celebrate movement and exercise with fun, active sessions to end the week positively.
- **Hand-eye coordination activities:** We set up daily challenges that help children practise controlling their movements and improving coordination.
- **Ball skills:** Children practise throwing, catching and rolling balls of different sizes and shapes, developing their balance and teamwork.
- **Fine and gross motor play:** We ensure children have access to activities that strengthen their small muscles (like drawing, threading and cutting) and large muscles (like climbing, jumping and running)

