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	Please bring £1 each week for a healthy snack. (£7 for this Half Term). 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. Please remember to pack a spare change of clothes in children's bags each day. Please remember to send children into school wearing a warm, waterproof coat EVERY DAY. 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 *Muddy Monday & Fresh Air Friday!*

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.



- **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.



- **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.



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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)

