

# Mary Dean's C of E Primary School Nursery - Summer 1 2025

**Understanding the world**  
 Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.  
 Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.  
 Exploring the plant life cycle, growing plants, living things, seasonal changes, seed to plant.  
 Geography - local vegetables and fruit that is grown nearby.

**Communication and Language**  
 Understand 'why' questions, like: "Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?"  
 Develop their communication but may continue to have problems with irregular tenses and plurals, such as 'runned' for 'ran', 'swimmed' for 'swam'.

**PSED**  
 Increasingly follow rules, understanding why they are important.  
 Remember rules without needing an adult to remind them.

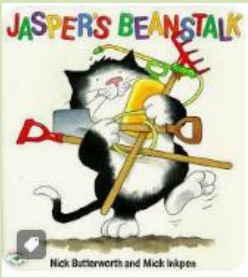
**Physical Development**  
 Increasingly be able to use and remember sequences and patterns of movements which are related to music and rhythm.  
 Choose the right resources to carry out their own plan. For example, choosing a spade to enlarge a small hole they dig with a trowel.

**Key Themes**

What do plants look like?  
 What parts do they have?  
 How do plants grow?  
 What do plants need to grow?  
 Focus Texts:



**Key Texts**



Jasper's Beanstalk by Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen

**Literacy**  
 Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. For example: writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of the page; writing 'm' for mummy.

**Maths**  
 Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5.  
 Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.  
 Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity.  
 Extend and create ABAB patterns - stick, leaf, stick, leaf.

**EAD**  
 Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them.  
 Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details.  
 Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness, fear, etc.  
 Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses, etc.

**Key Vocabulary**  
 Growing, seeds, plants, vegetables, fruits, flowers, stem, leaf, petal, sew, soil, sunlight

Dear Parents/Carers

This half term we will be talking about 'Growing'. We will look at all the different plants in the world around us, so that the children begin to understand that plants can be a spiky cactus or as big as an old oak tree. We will look at plants with flowers, plants that grow fruit or grow vegetables. We will talk about and explore the different parts of plants, so that the children can name the leaf, stem, roots and flower. We will grow our own plants from seeds and watch as they develop roots and shoots. We will learn about the conditions that plants needs to survive and grow.

This half term in our PE sessions we will continue to develop our movement skills by finding different ways to move our bodies to music and explore patterns to create a sequence of movements eg stamp, clap, wave etc.

Our Forest School is on a Tuesday, so please send your child with their wellies and weather appropriate clothes. We will also continue to provide opportunities to develop our gross motor skills throughout our provision eg bikes, trikes and obstacle courses. In addition we will provide a large range of fine motor activities such as small world play, threading, playdough, painting and puzzles.

In creative learning we will use our observational skills to draw and paint plants from nature. Our role-play will be set up as a farm shop for the children to explore different crops and produce while playing in role and using their maths skills to become familiar with prices and play money.

We will be learning some more number songs and practising counting on our hands. We will be focusing on recognising numbers to 5 and this will be supported by the Number Blocks programmes.

We use the Little Wandle phonics programme throughout the school and we teach the 'Foundations for Phonics' part in nursery. This involves lots of tuning into sounds to discriminate what a sound is and lots of rhyming activities and listening to the syllables in our names.

Below is a topic web to show the objectives we intend to cover within this topic. These are taken from the Development Matters EYFS guidance. Please feel free to talk to us if you have any questions.



