



## Curriculum Newsletter for Early Years Summer 2 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Summer 2! We would like to share our curriculum overview with you and some key dates for this half term.

PE day is [Thursday](#) so please ensure your child has their full PE kit with them; navy or black shorts or jogging bottoms, white t-shirt and black plimsolls.

[Homework](#) (for Reception) and [reading books](#) go out [Thursday](#) and pupils will be expected to return their homework to school on the following [Tuesday](#). Please ensure all homework is complete and back at school on time.

Our Topic for this half term is [In the Garden](#). Please take a look at our Curriculum Map.

<p>In <b>Writing</b>, we will develop independent writing through meaningful opportunities linked to our <b>garden theme</b>, such as writing labels, instructions for planting seeds, and simple observations. Children will apply their phonic knowledge to write simple sentences, working towards the Early Learning Goals expectations of writing recognisable words and simple phrases.</p> <p>In <b>Reading</b>, we will focus on reading simple sentences about <b>plants, growth and minibeasts</b>, developing understanding by discussing what has been read. We will explore non-fiction garden books and poems, supporting comprehension and vocabulary development.</p>	<p>In <b>Maths</b>, children will explore number through practical garden contexts such as <b>counting seeds, sharing items fairly, and solving simple problems</b>. We will continue developing understanding of number bonds, doubling and halving through hands-on activities.</p> <p>We will also review <b>money through role-play garden centres</b>, supporting children to recognise coins and use them in simple calculations.</p>	<p>In <b>Jewish Studies</b>, we will explore Jewish values linked to caring for the world through our garden topic. We will learn about <b>Bal Tashchit</b> (not wasting or destroying) by looking after plants, saving water, and respecting living things.</p> <p>We will also introduce the idea of <b>Tikkun Olam</b> (helping to repair the world) by caring for our garden and understanding how our actions can make the world a better place. Children will develop an awareness of their responsibility towards the environment, supporting their understanding of the world and building positive attitudes towards caring for living things.</p>	<p>In <b>Verbal and Non-verbal Reasoning</b>, children will explore <b>patterns in nature (e.g., petals, leaves)</b> and develop spatial awareness through arranging and constructing garden layouts.</p> <p>They will also build vocabulary linked to the garden, helping them describe what they see and explain their thinking clearly.</p>
<p>In <b>Phonics</b>, we will continue revising Phase 3 and introducing Phase 4, applying our knowledge through reading and writing <b>garden-themed words and sentences</b>.</p> <p>Children will continue to learn and use tricky words confidently in context, supporting reading.</p>	<p>Our topic this term is:</p> <h1>In the Garden</h1>		<p>In <b>Understanding the World</b>, we will explore <b>plants, growth, and lifecycles</b>, observing changes over time as we plant and care for our own seeds. Children will learn about <b>minibeasts and their habitats</b>, comparing similarities and differences in the natural world.</p> <p>We will also use technology to record the changes we observe (photos, simple programs).</p>
<p>In <b>Expressive Arts and Design</b>, children will use a range of materials to create <b>flowers, gardens, and minibeasts</b>, developing creativity and imagination.</p> <p>Through <b>music and movement</b>, we will create dances inspired by growing plants and garden creatures. Children will experiment with musical instruments to represent sounds found in nature.</p>	<p>In <b>Personal, Social, and Emotional Education</b>, we will focus on <b>working together to care for our garden</b>, developing cooperation, responsibility and resilience.</p> <p>Children will talk about feelings linked to caring for living things and solving problems collaboratively, supporting their work around managing self and building relationships.</p>	<p>In <b>Physical Development</b>, we will strengthen gross motor skills through outdoor activities such as <b>digging, planting, watering and moving safely in the garden space</b>.</p> <p>Fine motor skills will be developed through activities like <b>planting seeds, using tools, and mark-making</b>.</p>	<p>In <b>Communication and Language</b>, children will develop their speaking and listening through discussions about <b>what plants need to grow, describing minibeasts, and explaining processes</b>.</p> <p>They will practise giving instructions (e.g., how to plant a seed) and expressing their ideas clearly, working towards ELG expectations in speaking and listening attentively in different contexts.</p>