

## Key Books



## Key Experiences

- Continuing to settle into Elm Class—making friends, feeling safe and happy.
- Exploring stories, nursery rhymes and songs that are meaningful to us.
- Adding to our class learning journal and sharing six focus stories.
- Building positive relationships with adults and peers.

## Key vocabulary

- Naming simple feelings and emotions.
- Using positive behaviour language such as “good listening” and “good sitting.”
- Developing vocabulary by speaking in longer, meaningful sentences.
- Hearing new words through stories, songs, rhymes and play.

## Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- Continuing to build a secure relationship with their key person and playing confidently with others.
- Sharing weekly stories and rhymes at home via Class Dojo.
- Following simple class rules, including British values such as sitting to eat and saying “please” and “thank you.”
- Understanding non-negotiable safety rules (e.g., not opening gates or doors without an adult, wearing a coat outdoors).
- Beginning to recognise and manage their emotions with adult support.
- Making independent play choices and exploring new activities with enthusiasm.
- Parents and key staff working together to support children who are ready for independent toilet training.

## 2 Plus

### Spring Term 1

#### Our topic is: **Favourite Stories**

#### Mini themes: Chinese New Year Shrove Tuesday

## Mathematics

- Exploring numbers 1–5 through play and everyday routines.
- Using number rhymes to support early number recognition.
- Completing simple puzzles and connecting construction materials.
- Sorting objects by size, shape, colour or family group.

## Communication & Language

- Following simple instructions during daily routines.
- Developing listening and attention skills through play, active games and small-group sessions.
- Responding politely to adults' requests.
- Enjoying stories, songs and rhymes that are meaningful to the group.
- Building vocabulary through play, conversations and shared experiences.

## Understanding the World

- Sharing celebrations and home experiences with friends.
- Beginning to understand their own life story and family history through photos and familiar objects.
- Using small-world play to explore similarities and differences between people, animals and minibeasts (e.g., where they live, body parts, hot or cold habitats, languages spoken).
- Using their senses to explore natural materials indoors and outdoors.
- Exploring stories and rhymes in home languages linked to our topic.
- Using fiction, non-fiction and simple technology to find out about people, places, animals and celebrations around the world.

## Physical Development

- Taking part in personal care routines, such as dressing, undressing, toileting and handwashing.
- Developing whole-body movements through active songs, rhymes, running, kicking, catching and mark-making.
- Strengthening fine-motor skills and hand-eye coordination through sensory and malleable play.
- Beginning to use scissors safely to make simple snips.
- Using “walking inside” and “running outside” language consistently throughout the day.

## Literacy

- Joining in with familiar story words, rhymes and actions.
- Singing rhymes independently during play.
- Exploring nursery rhymes in their home languages.
- Using writing tools freely and giving meaning to their marks (e.g., "That is a spider").
- Threading fruits and cotton reels and using related vocabulary.

## Expressive Arts & Design

- Using a variety of materials and resources for creative play, including props linked to favourite stories.
- Exploring the home corner to act out real-life experiences and emotions.
- Mixing materials such as sand, water, paint and foam.
- Building and balancing with blocks to explore cause and effect, developing resilience when constructions fall down.

### How you can help at home

Read lots of stories

Sing songs and rhymes

Helping your child to develop hand eye coordination through a range of fun activities at home.

We will post more information to support you! With these on Class Dojo throughout the half-term.

### Class Dojo

Please make sure you check Class Dojo regularly for updates and information.

