

Nursery
Parent Curriculum Letter
Spring 1 - 2026



Dear Parents and Carers, Happy New Year!

We hope you have all had a fantastic Christmas break with your families and the children are ready for another exciting half term! Thank you for your wonderful gifts, cards and kind words, they were very much appreciated by us all. If you haven't already, please post a Christmas or New Year 'WOW! Moment' on your child's Tapestry Journal, the children love sharing exciting moments from home and have already enjoyed telling us all about how they spent Christmas with their families. Please continue to help your child practise taking off and putting on their coats/jackets, socks and shoes independently.

If you have any queries or concerns, you can contact us on our class email - nursery@gadevalley.herts.sch.uk, however please be aware that a response may take up to 48 hours as we do not monitor emails during nursery hours. If your query is urgent, please contact the school office on 01442 391324.

Thank you for all your support!

Best Wishes,

Mrs Wiltshire, Mrs Mayes, Mrs Walker & Miss Heritage

**Personal,
Social &
Emotional
Development**

Theme: Dreams and Goals. We will be helping the pupils to think about their hopes and dreams, their goals for success, what their personal strengths are, and how to be more resilient when overcoming challenges. Pupils will learn about managing their feelings. They will have an opportunity to share their own dreams and goals, alongside discussing those of others in different cultures/countries.
Key Text: Happy New Year Spot by Eric Hill

**Communication
& Language**

We will continue to use a story, rhyme or song as the basis for our group activities each week, encouraging the children to retell the story in their own words and further develop their ideas about it in their play. The pupils will continue developing their listening skills, taking note of what others say in conversations and responding appropriately, using varied language and more complex sentences.
Key Text: Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne

Literacy

Through our 'Book of the Week', we will be encouraging the pupils to create their own props to support and extend their role-play. Most of the pupils can now recognise their names and will be encouraged to begin forming the letters of their name correctly. In Phonics, we will be consolidating the pupil's listening skills in Phase 1 of Letters and Sounds. This will include hearing and recognising rhyming words and alliteration. Many of our stories, songs and rhymes will include examples of these. We will be celebrating Winnie the Pooh Day by bringing our favourite Teddy Bears to school and making sandwiches for a Teddy Bear's Picnic. Further details to follow.
Key text: Winnie the Pooh Stories by AA Milne.

<p>Maths</p>	<p>This term the pupils will continue to work on their recognition of numbers and matching numerals to quantities. They will be thinking about the different mathematical terms, more or less and comparing groups of objects to recognise when two groups have the same amount. The pupils will also compare the size of objects using mathematical terms bigger/biggest and smaller/smallest.</p> <p>Key texts: Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs by Ian Whybrow</p>
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<p>Understanding of the World</p>	<p>During outdoor sessions, we will be learning about plants that grow in the Spring. We will be planting our own bulbs around the Nursery Garden and observing how quickly and how tall they grow. The pupils will also be thinking about their favourite fruits and vegetables, researching where in the world they come from and exploring weather and climates to help explain why they grow in those countries.</p> <p>Key Text: Oliver's Vegetables by Alison Bartlett & Vivien French. Where Do Vegetables Come From? By Twinkl Original</p>
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<p>Expressive Arts and Design</p>	<p>This term the pupils will be encouraged to use their creative skills outside. Using the story of the week as a starting point, the pupils will be encouraged to use junk modelling to create props to enhance their play. In the garden, the pupils will explore colour mixing to create decorations to hang in our cherry tree and develop their mark making skills using the painting screen and large chalk. During music sessions, the pupils will be using their listening skills to recognise and name instruments and using the instruments to tap out rhythms to accompany familiar nursery rhymes and songs.</p> <p>Key Text: What the Ladybird Heard By Julia Donaldson</p>
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<p>Physical Development</p>	<p>The pupils will be developing their expressive movement through dance. Pupils will learn how to use their space safely while exploring different ways to travel, make shapes and balance in response to music. Throughout the unit, the children will learn how to copy, repeat and remember their actions whilst keeping in time. At the end of each session, the pupils will have an opportunity to perform to their peers and provide simple feedback. The pupils will continue to complete 'Busy Finger' activities in the morning, which are designed to help them continue developing their fine motor skills.</p> <p>Key Text: Doing the Animal Bop By Jan Ormerod</p>
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<p>Reading at Home</p>	<p>Pupils will continue to choose a book each week to bring home and share with you. Please sign and date your child's Family Learning Book every time you read with them (no more than 7 times in a week). If the children share a book at home 5 times in a week, their Golden Ticket will be entered into the whole school Willy Wonka Reading draw during Friday sharing assembly. Many pupils have now been awarded their Red 50 Reads Certificate and are working towards their Bronze 100 reads award. Congratulations!</p>
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<p>Important Dates</p> <p>Tuesday 20th January - Winnie the Pooh Day Tuesday 10th February: Internet Safety Day Friday 13th February- End of half term</p> <p>Monday 23rd February- Start of Spring 2 Term</p>	
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