

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have a very busy term ahead of us. Our topic this term is 'How can we grow strong and healthy?' The children will be learning about and practising healthy habits such as healthy eating, washing hands, the importance of sleep and good hygiene and the importance of exercise and fresh air for physical health and well-being. Through age appropriate stories, children will also be learning that their bodies are their own – safe and unsafe touches and the importance of telling a trusted adult if something feels wrong.

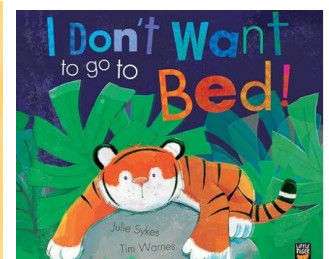
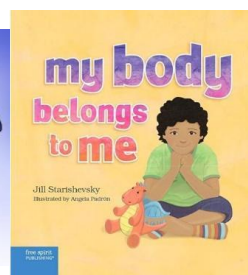
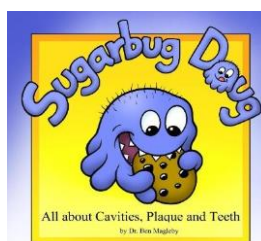
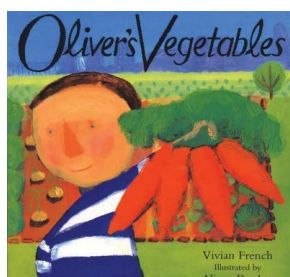
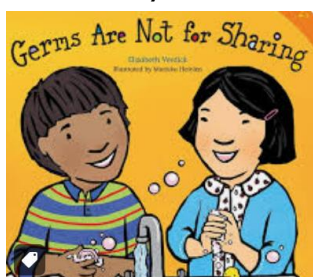
This term the children will be working on the following key skills:

How can we grow strong and healthy?

Nursery Key Topic Skills	Reception Key Topic Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can try various fruit and vegetables and begin to describe their taste and texture • I can wash hands independently. • I can name foods that are good for my health. • I can experiment making body shapes (PE). • I can name foods that I should eat only as a treat. • I can copy write my name. • I can sort objects by one function, e.g. colour and size • I can draw and paint simple representations of fruit and vegetables by drawing circles and lines and enclosing spaces • I can subitise quantities up to 3 • I can recite number names in order to 10 and can count 4 objects using One-to one correspondence • I can name shapes: triangle, rectangle, square, circle and heart • I can use simple positional language • I can retell a simple story using roleplay and props • I am beginning to use a pincer grip to hold my pen • I am beginning to associate letters with sounds • I can talk about my creations, explaining what I have used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can describe the taste and texture of foods, stating whether they are good for my health. • I can explain how I feel after the exercise and state the positive effects of exercise on my body. • I can practise correct handwashing and toothbrushing techniques. • I can sort foods into healthy and unhealthy • I can draw and paint simple representations of fruit and vegetables by drawing circles and lines and enclosing spaces and choosing appropriate colours to fill in spaces. • I can confidently subitise quantities up to 5 objects • I can understand the composition of numbers 6 to 10. • I can say 1 more and 1 less than any number 1-10. • I begin to explore mental calculation strategies. • I can say where the object is in relation to other objects speaking in full sentences • I can retell a simple story, past events, placing events in a logical order. • I begin to create my own stories. • I can draw and write using a comfortable pencil grip

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I join in with singing simple nursery rhymes and songs and I can recite/sing some of them by heart. • I can play alongside other children, engaging in conversations and sharing space and resources • I can use the toilet independently and remember to flush it after I use it. • I can name some symbols of Easter • I can listen to the Easter story with attention and recall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can use all the letter sounds and consonant digraphs <i>and some</i> vowel digraphs in my writing. • I can identify all set 2 vowel digraphs and trigraphs: ee, ay, oo, ow, igh, ar, or ,air, ur, ou, oy, ir • In meaningful contexts, I can write sentences that make sense using the basic punctuation and the knowledge of the learnt sounds. • I can sing a variety of Nursery rhymes and songs and continue to build the repertoire of songs that I can sing from memory. • I can recall events of Holy Week as celebrated by Christians
<p>Activities/Resources/Experiences</p>	<p>Vocabulary:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Painting fruit and vegetables, exploring various painting techniques • Printing with fruit and vegetables • Making faces with fruit and vegetables • Making healthy snacks, e.g. smoothie, fruit kebabs, pitta wraps, pancakes, sandwiches, • Sorting foods into healthy and unhealthy • Practising brushing teeth using the giant teeth model and the toothpaste • Growing cress, growing herbs in the garden, planting tomatoes. • School Nurse visit to talk about washing hands and brushing teeth • exercise on fresh air in local parks: St James's park, Victoria Tower Gardens • Minibeast hunt workshop at the Natural History Museum (to be confirmed) • body balances and developing strength (PE) • Science Week 	<p>PSE: kind, gentle, share, friend, taking turns, responsible, Going for Gold</p> <p>Literacy/Phonics: letter, sound, special friend, word, blend, sound out, digraph, trigraph, sound/phoneme, letter</p> <p>Maths: count, number, subitise, represent, how many, altogether, one more, one less, add, subtract, altogether, total, count on, count back</p> <p>Understanding the World: Names of fruit and vegetables, names of the external body parts, basic food groups, names of internal organs: heart, lungs</p> <p>RE: Christian, Palm Sunday, Hosanna, disciple, last supper, cross, tomb, Easter Sunday, celebrate</p> <p>Expressive Arts & Design: Painting, printing, collaging, technique, texture, pattern, materials, colour, fill in, cover,</p>

The key texts this term will be:



READY

The general pieces of information/reminders below should also be helpful as your child continues his/her education but please do speak to me if you have questions about any of these points:

- Our online learning journal '**Tapestry**' will continue to be used to share your child's learning journey through photographs and videos. We value parents' contributions towards the children's learning journey. Please do use it to share your child's experiences outside of school and completed homework. Some of these will be shared with the rest of the class.
- **School Uniform:** All the children must come to school wearing the correct school uniform. (Elasticated school uniform trousers or jogging bottoms are often a better choice for school children than trousers with the zip and a button as they encourage to develop independence) Please ensure that all uniform items are named (especially sweatshirts and cardigans) as this helps to return lost items to the right children. It is important that the children wear appropriate footwear – comfortable black school shoes with Velcro fastenings help with developing independence.
- **Book Bags:** These are an important part of school life as they help to bring home books, letters or art work that the children have made. The book bags need to be brought to school every day. Please make sure your child's name is clearly labelled on their book bag. **Books will be changed on Mondays.**
- **Spare Clothes:** Each child needs to have a set of spare clothes in a **clearly labelled string draw bag**, e.g. St Matthew's PE bag, which will be kept on your child's peg. Please note that our cupboard cannot fit bags of other styles due to a very limited space.
- **Snack Time:** Fruit and milk is available to the children every day. We will encourage children to try all of the fruits that are provided. If you haven't yet told the school office about any medical or allergy information about your child, please do pass this on as soon as possible.
- **PE:** PE sessions will continue to take place on Fridays. On this day, the children have to come to school wearing their PE kit - navy shorts/jogging bottoms, T-shirt, trainers and the school jumper.
- **Homework:** compulsory homework in the Early Years is reading. Both Nursery and Reception children will continue to get a picture book. The children should be encouraged to talk about the illustrations, to join in with repetitive parts and to retell the stories. Reception children will continue to take home word cards and the reading books to consolidate phonics skills that have been learning at school.
- **Safety:** To ensure the safety of all pupils, the use of mobile phones and taking pictures of the children by parents is not permitted in our Early Years setting.
- **Medicines:** Only prescribed medicines in the prescription packaging may be administered at School and all the relevant paperwork must be completed by the parent/carer prior to any medication being administered. General medication (such as Calpol, cough medicine, eye drops) cannot be administered by any member of staff.
- **Pre-loved items:** If you would like to donate a preloved item in good condition to the Early Years, please speak to a member of staff first, as we have very limited space for resources. However, we always need small bits and bobs for creative work such as bottle tops, buttons, yoghurt pots, straws, kitchen towel rolls and small boxes. We would also appreciate pre-loved books and toys exploring themes of Healthy eating, exercise, hygiene, etc.
- **Collective Worship:** Our whole school Celebration Collective Worship takes place every Friday at 2:50pm; all parents are welcome to attend. The black playground gates on St Ann's Lane are opened at 2.45pm so that parents can join us for this special celebration collective worship/ assembly in the school hall.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to talk to me at school at the end of the day, or make an appointment by emailing the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Farida Swift

Early Years Class Teacher