

Nursery Curriculum Letter Autumn 1 2026

At St Mary's we believe that a child learns best through child-initiated play and below are some of the key aspects of child development that we will be encouraging through play this half term. We have included themes for specific areas which may be important to the children and therefore may feature in their play. We will post photos of children's learning on Tapestry, we hope you enjoy seeing their latest achievements.

Communication & Language We will be listening to environmental and instrumental sounds through a variety of games, sound walks and songs.

We will enjoy learning a range of nursery rhymes and singing them together. Why not share some nursery rhymes at home?



Physical Development Your children look very smart in their uniforms and school shoes. We will start to practice changing our shoes and putting on our wellies. We will also learn a technique for putting on our coats. We go outside every day even in the rain so these will be very important skills. Please ensure that your child has a coat everyday!



PSED Our theme is 'Being Me in My World'. The children are learning lots of new routines and they are working hard to become more independent! We introduce our "golden rules" through puppets. The puppets represent gentleness, kindness, listening, trying hard and honesty. These skills will support your child to flourish in Nursery.



Understanding the World Autumn has well and truly begun so we will be exploring the environmental changes we can see when we are outside. We will make collections of natural items that help to represent Autumn such as leaves and conkers. This will also help us to discuss Harvest time and the importance of Harvest. We will represent this through songs as well. This year we will be singing: The big red combine harvester, The dingle dangle scarecrow and The Farmer plants the seeds.



Literacy We will be reading books all the time in nursery, it is so important that they hear adults reading and begin to sit and listen. We have lots of books about Harvest, Farming, Autumn and Nursery Rhymes to reinforce the learning taking place in other parts of the curriculum. We will also begin to encourage the children to recognise and read their names as part of registration and snack time. Your children will choose a library book every Friday for you to read to them. We will change this every Friday if it is returned to us.

We will also read 'Walking through the Jungle' together, we will add actions and sounds to this story so that it is interactive.



Maths We have one Maths circle time per day and we will be teaching Maths to begin with through counting stories, songs and games. We will also focus on one Maths based Nursery rhyme per week in Autumn 1. We will then encourage counting through play and in our daily routines! We will also be looking out for leaves in the environment and then sorting them based on colour and size.



Expressive Arts We love mark making in nursery, we will be encouraging mark making using a variety of tools such as pencils, crayons, brushes/paint, foam. We will model how to hold tools as part of our physical development and we will even begin teaching the children to write their name. We will be sending their work home so please send in a book bag every day.



Religious Education Rector Jonathan will visit us every week. He always reads to us. We will be visiting the church to prepare us for Harvest Festival. Look out for more information on this event.