

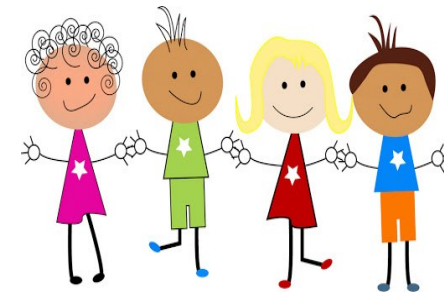
Diary Dates for academic year 2025-2026 for Nursery

Autumn One	
During October	Black History Month, Oracy Month, Harvest Festival collection
21.10.2025	Nursery Parents Meetings (AM appointments)
22.10.2025	Nursery Parents Meetings (PM appointments)
w/b 27.10.2025	October Half Term
Autumn Two	
03.11.2025	INSET Day
11.11.2025	Armistice Day
14.11.2025	Children in Need Day
28.11.2025	St. Andrew's Day
12.12.2025	Christmas Jumper Day
15.12.2025	Nursery Carol Singing [details to follow]
22.12.2025-02.01.2025	Christmas Holidays
Spring One	
10.02.2026	Nursery Parents Meetings (AM appointments)
11.02.2026	Nursery Parents Meetings (PM appointments)
w/b 16.02.2026	February Half Term
Spring Two	
05.03.2026	World Book Day
13.03.2026	Mother's Day Sale
20.02.2026	Red Nose Day
30.03.2026 – 10.4.2026	Easter Holidays
Summer One	
April 23.04.2026	Autism Acceptance Month St. George's Day
w/b 25.05.2026	May Half Term
Summer Two	
19.06.2026	Father's Day sale
15.07.2026	End of year celebration
20.7.2026	INSET DAY
21.07.2026	Summer Holiday



Merrylands Primary School and Nursery

Welcome to Nursery



Our Nursery Vision

The Nursery team at Merrylands have high expectations for every child in our setting. All pupils in our Nursery are valued. We embrace the wide range of starting points and experiences with which our learners arrive. We prioritise language development (including vocabulary) and Personal Social and Emotional Development.

Our curriculum is mapped through over-arching topics with the scope for practitioners to skilfully follow children's interests. Our team are responsive to the needs of our children, we carefully adapt and refine our provision using research and evidence-based approach. The offer in the Nursery ensures pupils engage in language and vocabulary rich experiences enabling them to learn new concepts and skills.

Our Topics

This year in Nursery we will be following these topics covering all areas of learning.

Autumn	<u>Starting Nursery and Nursery Rhymes</u> This half term in Nursery we will be learning about starting Nursery and making new friends. We will enjoy learning and sing nursery rhymes. <u>Changing seasons and Celebrations</u> This half term in Nursery we will be learning about the changing seasons and celebrations such as Diwali and Christmas.
Spring	<u>Time for Traditional Story</u> This half term in Nursery we will be learning about Traditional Tales. <u>Let's get growing</u> This half term in Nursery we will be learning about the things that happen in Spring, growing our own plants and about big and small animals as well as celebrating Easter.
Summer	<u>Animals big, small and from long ago</u> This half term in Nursery we will be learning and thinking about animals from around the world and animals who lived a long time ago. <u>Summertime and growing up moving on</u> This half term in Nursery we will be thinking about starting school or staying in Nursery and making new friends. We also think about summer time, special days out or going on holiday.

What we do In Nursery

The EYFS framework supports our approach to teaching and provides opportunities for more meaningful interactions with our pupils. This supports a deeper knowledge of individual pupil's development. We encourage and develop pupil's confidence by helping them to develop a strong, positive sense of self. We build strong relationships.

Our timetable is a blend of focused direct teaching and continuous provision where children have the opportunity to learn independently through exploration and challenge. Play forms a big part of our provision with a mix of child initiated and guided opportunities. Each half term, Nursery staff introduce a new theme to provide inspiration for learning, whilst providing the flexibility for children to follow their own interests and ideas. Children learn through a balance of child-initiated and adult-directed activities. The timetable is carefully structured so children have directed teaching during the day.

Understanding the World is aligned to the progression of learning in science, computing, history, RE and geography. Writing is developed through mark making, which has a positive impact on developing fine motor skills.

Reading is one of our key priorities and children are encouraged to develop a 'love of reading' through stories, drama, role-play and taking books from the Nursery reading area. Our primary approach for teaching our pupils to read and write is through phonics. Pupils are taught phonics through phonemes (sounds) associated with graphemes (letters) during our daily phonics sessions. Pupils are also encouraged to use their phonic knowledge during their writing activities. We follow the FFT programme to ensure consistency across the school. In Nursery children focus on Phase 1 and start to work on Phase 2.

How to support your child's learning at home

Children are encouraged to read at home and are listened to regularly in school. They are given books that match their phonic knowledge in order for them to apply their learning with the aim of becoming successful, confident and fluent readers. Reading stories together and sharing books, singing together, playing i-spy and other simple games which support child's vocabulary and understanding of language are great activities to do at home. Simple activities are also uploaded on Tapestry each week for you to support your child at home. These activities will link to learning and support your child for the following week in Nursery.