

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

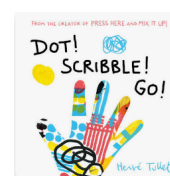
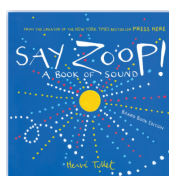
Welcome to a brand new school year at [Nursery Name]! Whether your family is joining us for the very first time or returning for another wonderful year, we are thrilled to have you as part of our nursery community. We hope you all enjoyed a relaxing, sun filled summer and had plenty of time to rest and play together.

This Autumn term promises to be an exciting one, we view early education as a true partnership, and we look forward to working closely with you to support your child's unique journey every step of the way.

NURSERY

Colour and Shape

This half term, our reading adventures will focus on interactive stories that bring our topic of **Shape and Colour** to life. We have carefully chosen books with engaging textures, lift the flap features, and bright visuals to help the children explore and interact with the texts.



Prime areas of learning

Communication and Language



This half term, our key focus is supporting the children's Communication and Language development as they settle into nursery, learn our daily routines, and build confidence in their new environment. Through everyday interactions, we will be introducing our important "Rules for Good Listening" to foster active listening and attention skills. During shared storytimes, the children will practice their comprehension by commenting on familiar tales and answering simple "who" questions. To help everyone build their spoken language and social confidence, we will be actively encouraging the children to "use their words" to express their thoughts, needs, and feelings with staff and peers—ensuring every child, especially those new to our setting, feels comfortable, safe, and heard as they explore their new setting.

PSHE



This half term, our aim is to help the children settle in and develop independence through our daily routines. We will be guiding the children to take ownership of their personal belongings; such as hanging up their coats and putting away their water bottles as well as learning to tidy away equipment when they finish playing. To foster strong social connections, we will work in small groups to help the children build new friendships and become familiar with key adults in the room. Alongside these practical skills, we will be using *The Colour Monster* story to introduce rich emotional vocabulary, gently supporting the children to identify and articulate feelings like happiness, sadness, anger, calmness, and love as they learn to recognize their own emotions.

Physical development



This half term, we are excited to enrich the children's physical development and outdoor learning through PE and Forest School sessions. Every **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday morning**, the children will take part in PE lessons with our specialist coaches, where classic stories like *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* will come to life through movement before being set up in our outdoor area for continuous play. Alongside learning to use our climbing equipment safely and developing spatial awareness, indoor activities will focus on fine motor skills like making large circle shapes and snipping with scissors. Additionally, on **Tuesday and Friday afternoons**, the children will head out for Forest School, where they will learn key site boundaries, and follow essential safety rules like "no picking, no licking."

Coming up...



INSET day - Friday 25th September

Stay and Play - Tuesday 20th October 2pm-3pm

Friday 23rd October - End of half term

Monday 25th October -Friday 30th October - HALF TERM

Contact us



If there is anything you wish to discuss with us regarding the information on this newsletter; or if you have any further queries or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

Miss King

t.king@oakridge-inf.hants.sch.uk

How can you help?

Please remember that Nursery closes at 3pm on a Wednesday so please ensure all children are collected promptly.

Please name everything including shoes, water bottles and lunch boxes. Whilst we are sure your child knows what their things look like it is helpful for us as staff to also be able to identify their belongings. This is particularly true when children are putting wetsuits and wellington boots on to go outside and there are multiple pairs of the same shoe.

You don't need any special worksheets or equipment to support your child's learning—exploring shapes and colours happens naturally through everyday play and routine! Here are a few simple ideas to try together at home:

- **Talk About Snack Time:** Point out shapes on your child's plate. Circular apple slices, triangular sandwich halves, or square crackers are great conversation starters ("Look, your toast has three corners—it's a triangle!").
- **Go on a "Shape & Colour Hunt":** While walking to nursery or exploring the park, look for shapes and colours in the world around you. *Can you find a round wheel, a square window, or a bright red postbox?*
- **Sort the Laundry:** Involve your child in simple sorting tasks at home. Ask them to match all the blue socks together, or separate the clothes into light and dark piles.

Most importantly, keep the language playful! Using words like *curved*, *straight*, *sides*, *corners*, *bright*, and *dark* during everyday play helps build your child's confidence using this vocabulary within the play.

Try to establish a consistent bedtime routine including a bedtime story. A consistent bedtime routine and a calming bedtime story help children transition from the active day into restful, high-quality sleep.

