



Holmer Green
First School and Pre-School

Early Years Meet the Teacher





Pre-School Team



Lauren



Rachel



Hannah



Lyndsey



Laura



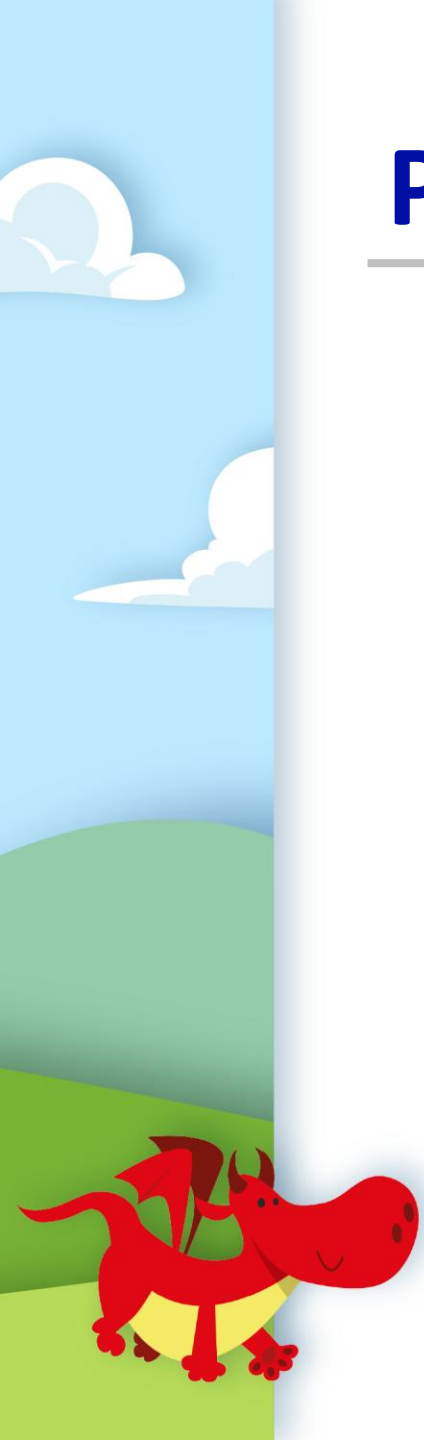
Tasha



Anna



Tabby





Pre-School

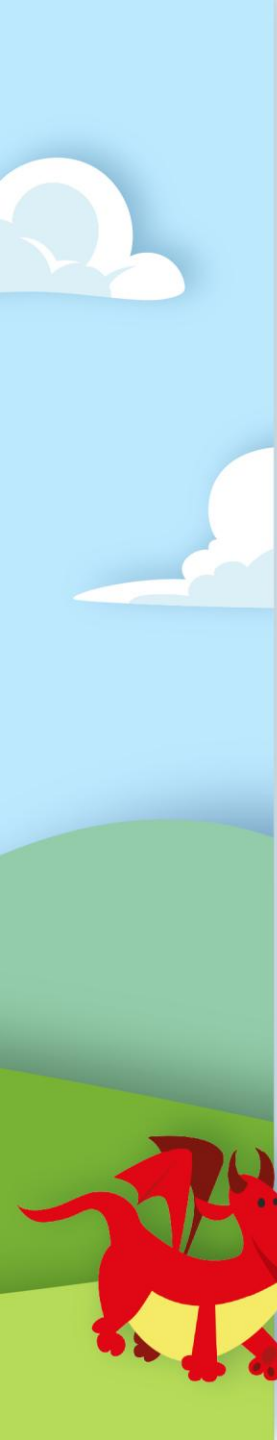
In Pre-School the children have opportunities to explore all the areas in the room from the sand pit, to the climbing equipment to the playdough table. They also enjoy imaginative play in the home corner and using a ladder to reach up high on the chalk board. It is so much fun!

We want to make sure that all of the children are happy and settled and enjoy their time with us and provide them with a range of different activities and resources to support them to do this.

We welcome you to Come and Play sessions that take place each term to explore the classroom with your children.

The children will also take part in a visit from Ark Farm later in the year where they will be able to look at, stroke and hold a range of farm animals including goats, rabbits and guinea pigs.

More information will follow later in the year.





Pre-School

Phonics

- We will be focusing on 'listening' skills, whether that be environmental sounds, body sounds or percussive sounds. Sunflowers will start to learn letter sounds later in the year.
- Sunflowers will receive wordless books in the summer term.

Maths

- We focus on the value of numbers to 5 and the different ways we see, make, show and represent those numbers.

School Uniform

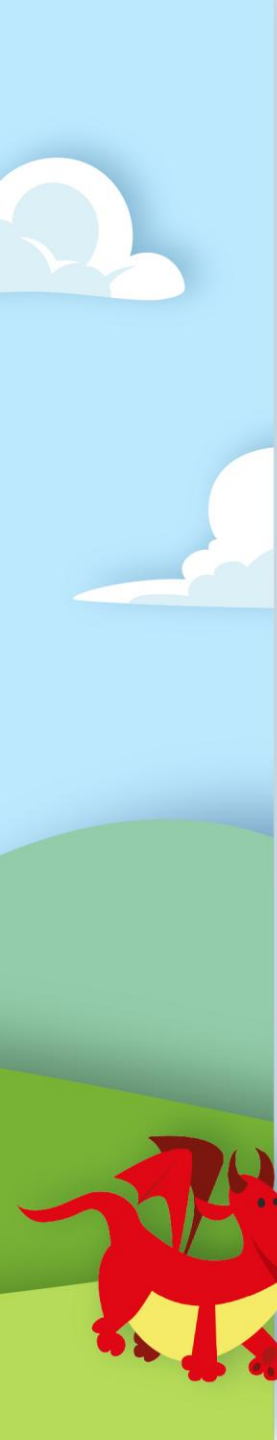
- Please provide a bag containing a full set of named, spare clothes and nappies. Your child might get messy or wet whilst playing.

Contacting the school

- Please email the office or write a note in the diary by the door in the cloakroom if your child is going home with someone different.

Forest School

- Pre-School sessions in the summer term.
- More information will be given out nearer the time.





Reception Team



Miss Trattner



Mrs Gomes



Miss Cartwright



Mrs Drew



Miss McEwan



Miss Sandom



Miss Yasin



Miss McGee



Mrs Sealy



Mrs M



Miss Allison





The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

In Pre-School and Reception we follow the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

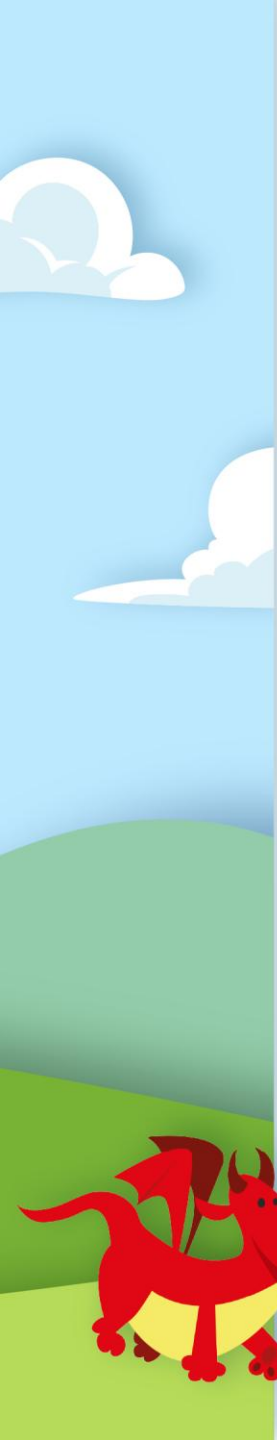
The Curriculum is based around 7 areas of learning:

The Prime Areas

- Communication and Language.
- Physical Development.
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

The Specific Areas

- Literacy.
- Mathematics.
- Understanding the World.
- Expressive Art and Design.





Continuous Provision

Continuous Provision is the range of carefully planned areas and resources that are available for children to access and explore throughout the day.

It provides opportunities to:

- Explore and apply learning across different areas of the curriculum, including STEM, construction, small world, creative and communication.
- Practise and embed taught skills and knowledge independently.
- Explore, investigate and develop their own ideas and interests.
- Revisit learning over time to deepen understanding and make connections.
- Develop independence, resilience, curiosity, creativity and teamwork.
- Strengthen communication and vocabulary through purposeful talk with adults and peers.

Provision reflects current and previous learning, enabling children to revisit, apply and secure their knowledge across the curriculum.





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Continuous Provision





English Literacy/Phonics

- We focus on teaching phonics and introduce correct letter formation this term.
- Please encourage writing lower case letters. Capitals only for beginning of name or sentence.
- We have patters that are used to aid correct letter formation.
- We use a handwriting scheme that matches our phonics scheme to support children with forming their letters correctly.
- Reception will be learning a number of letter sounds per week, beginning with single sounds and building up to digraphs and trigraphs e.g. 'ch', 'ai' and 'igh'.
- Each sound has an action!
- You will receive a handout showing all the actions and patters in your child's homework folder.





Letter Formation Patterns



Unlocking Handwriting

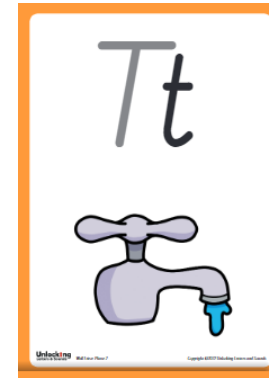
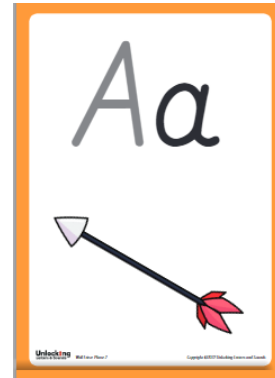
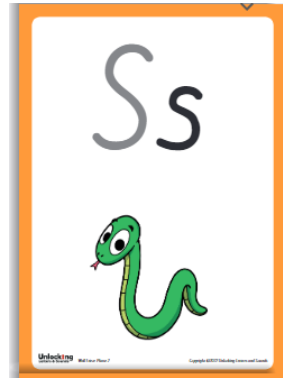
Lowercase Letter Formation Patterns

	Letter	Formation Pattern
Down Letter Family	l	down and flick
	i	short down, flick, give it a dot
	t	down and round, pencil off, across
	u	down, round, up, down and flick
	y	down, round, up, down, give it a tail
	j	down, tail, give it a dot
	r	down, up and over
	n	down, up, over, down and flick
	m	down, up, over, down, up, over, down and flick
	p	down, up to the top, round to the middle
	h	down, up to the middle, over, down and flick
	b	down, up to the middle and round to the bottom
	k	down, up to the middle, loop and flick





Phonics



GPC	Image	Action
s		Snake – Slithering snake action with arm
a		Arrow – Firing an arrow
t		Tap – Twisting a tap





Reading

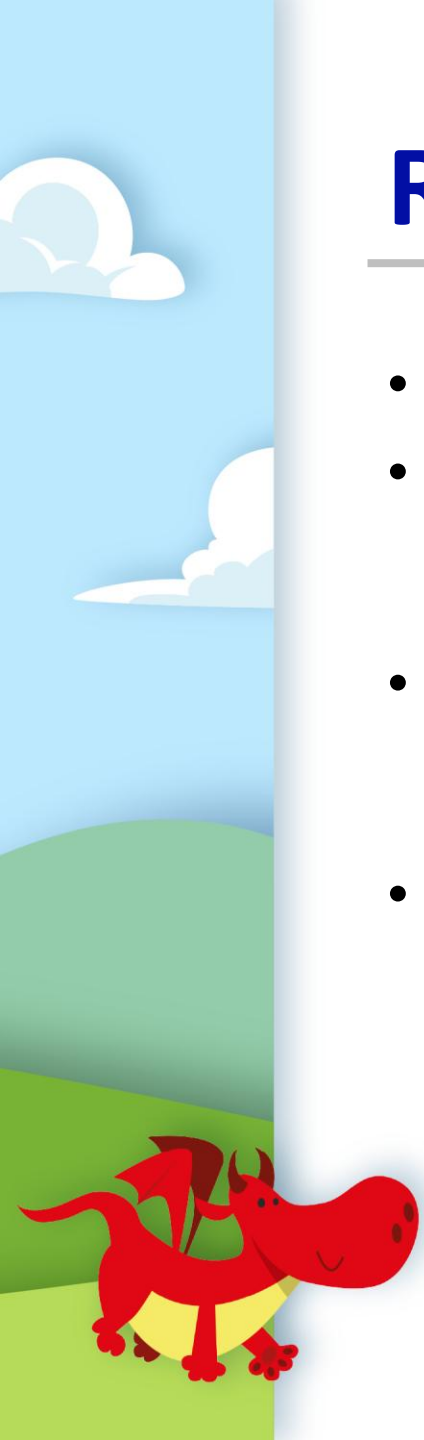
- Reading must be constant for children, do draw their attention to all print in the environment – shops, signs, their favourite magazine, subtitles etc.
- Your child will visit the library each week. Please return the book the following week.
- As soon as they are secure with some Phase 2 sounds they will begin to bring phonetically decodable books home to read with you.
- Record comments in the Jungle Book. This is a reading record book and home-school communication book combined.
- When we read with the children, we will add a red, green or orange dot to show how well your child has read. If there is a red or orange dot we will add a comment about the help that is needed.





Reading

- It is really important that you read with your child each evening.
- We can see a huge difference when we compare pupil's who read at home and those who do not. We understand everyone is busy, even if you manage to read twice a week with your child (their school book).
- Please record in your child's Jungle Book when you have read with them. Books must be read 3 times. Only when a book has been read 3 times will it be changed. Books will be changed on Monday and Thursday.
- It is very important that books are read 3 times – this supports the child with their confidence when reading as it focuses on 3 different types of reading –
 - 1. Decoding: blending to read, and common exception words.
 - 2. Prosody: reading with expression – in order to read with expression, you must be able to read the words efficiently.
 - 3. Comprehension: each time you read a book, you learn more about the story itself and can dive deeper into the meaning.





Maths

- Hands on and practical.
- Basic counting skills using numbers to 10 and then 20.
- Subitising – don't count, say the amount.
- Composition of number - different ways to make each number.
- Shape, space and measures.





Home Learning

- We will be sending home the list of phonemes – (sounds) with actions so you can practise them at home. We will aim to cover 4 phonemes each week.
- These will be in your child's book bag each Friday.
- You will also receive common exception words to practise eg. the, I, me.
- We use Seesaw as our remote learning platform in case of school closure. Your child's first home learning of the year will be set on Seesaw to allow everyone to activate their accounts. You will receive this letter and your child's log in on Friday 11th September. If you have any issues activating the account, please speak to your child's class teacher.



Tapestry



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- Tapestry is used across the school, from Pre-School/Reception to Year Two.
- It allows us to document your child's journey through our school.
- Before your child leaves us, at the end of Year Two, you are able to download their journal to keep an electronic copy.
- We use Tapestry to capture 'wow' moments – the first time your child masters something. Tapestry is not used to document your child's day.
- Staff usually post a photo/video and link it to the relevant National Curriculum area. Rarely will there be any writing accompanying the post as we believe that it is more important for staff to interact with the children than type a narrative (a picture speaks a thousand words!)
- Parents also have the ability to post photos and videos on Tapestry for staff to view.





General Reminders

- Please ensure all uniform is named.
- Please provide your child with a pair of wellies with a peg with their name on that can be kept at school.
- Please make sure that your child brings a coat to school, whatever the weather. We open outside whatever the weather.
- Do continue to encourage your child to dress and undress independently. Velcro shoes really help with this.
- Reception PE days are Tuesday and Thursday.
- Children will keep their P.E. kit at school. They will be sent home at the end of half-term.
- In cold weather, children may wear black jogging bottoms or black leggings and school jumper.
- Children must have trainers in school.
- Water: Each child should bring a named water bottle to use throughout the day. Please only fill it with water and not squash. Please don't put the water bottles in the book bags.





Book Bags

- Please check and empty your child's book bags daily for letters and general information not sent via email.
- If your child is going home with another adult please write a message in their Jungle Book as the child will not be released unless the school has been notified. If you forget to write a note in their Jungle Book, please email the office to let us know.
- It is not necessary to provide your child with a snack. Snacks are provided.





Forest School

- There is no such thing as bad weather at Forest School, we expect the children to get very muddy!
- Long sleeve top and trousers which you don't mind getting muddy. This will protect the children and adults from the stinging nettles and biting/stinging insects.
- The school will provide waterproof over trousers for the children to borrow.
- Each class will have the opportunity to have a Forest School session on a Friday each term. This will allow them to observe changes over time and see the forest during the different seasons.
- Children may come dressed in their Forest School clothes for the day.

Forest School Dates

Owl Class

- 13th November 2026
- 12th March 2027
- 18th June 2027

Fox Class

- 20th November 2026
- 19th March 2027
- 25th June 2027





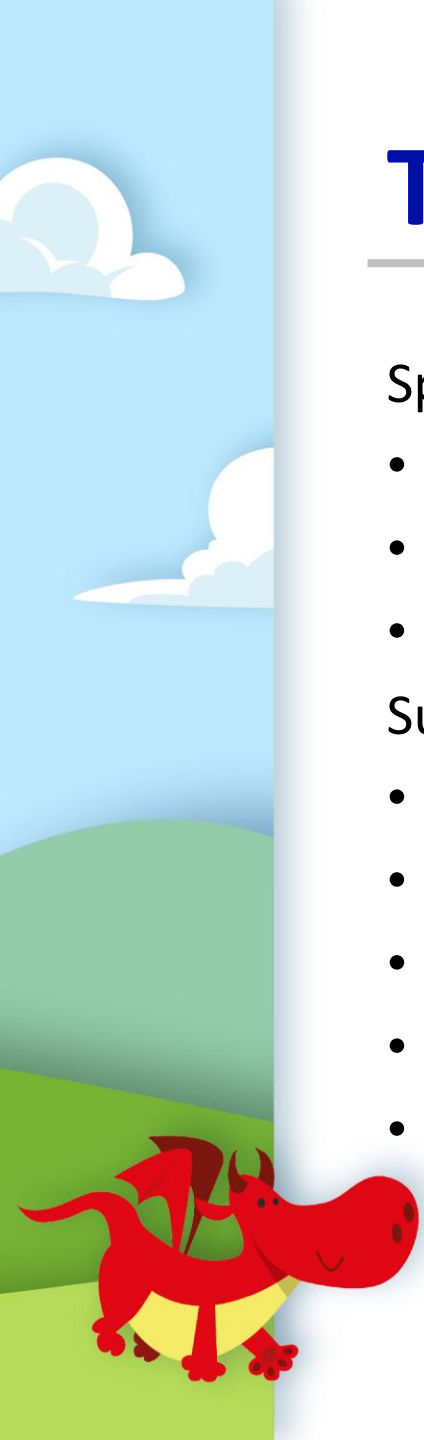
Trips and Visits

Spring Term:

- Indian Drumming Workshop
- Monday 15th March 2027
- £6.30

Summer Term:

- Visit to Bekonscot Model Village – Time Machine Workshop
- Tuesday 15th June 2027
- £18
- Magic Booking
- Trips and visits have been carefully spread throughout the year to help families manage the cost. However, as the school is unable to subsidise these activities, they can only go ahead if sufficient voluntary contributions are received.





NED Cards

_____ is just like NED because

|

Never give up, Encourage others,
Do your best!



To celebrate very special achievements e.g. riding a bike without stabilisers or tie shoe laces independently.

A sheet of 2 will be sent home this week. These should last for several months. But if you would like some more, please ask your class teacher.





Online Safety

Very important in ensuring all children are safe online.

Online safety lessons are taught each term and reinforced through out the year to ensure children use the internet safely and know what to do if they are a victim of Online Bullying.

Some games, videos and apps are not appropriate for children and some of the characters in these can cause children to become upset and worried.

Please refer to the age ratings on video games.

Huggy Wuggy



Siren Head



Check restrictions on your devices (iPad, mobile phone) if your child can access them
– Netflix, Youtube, Roblox.

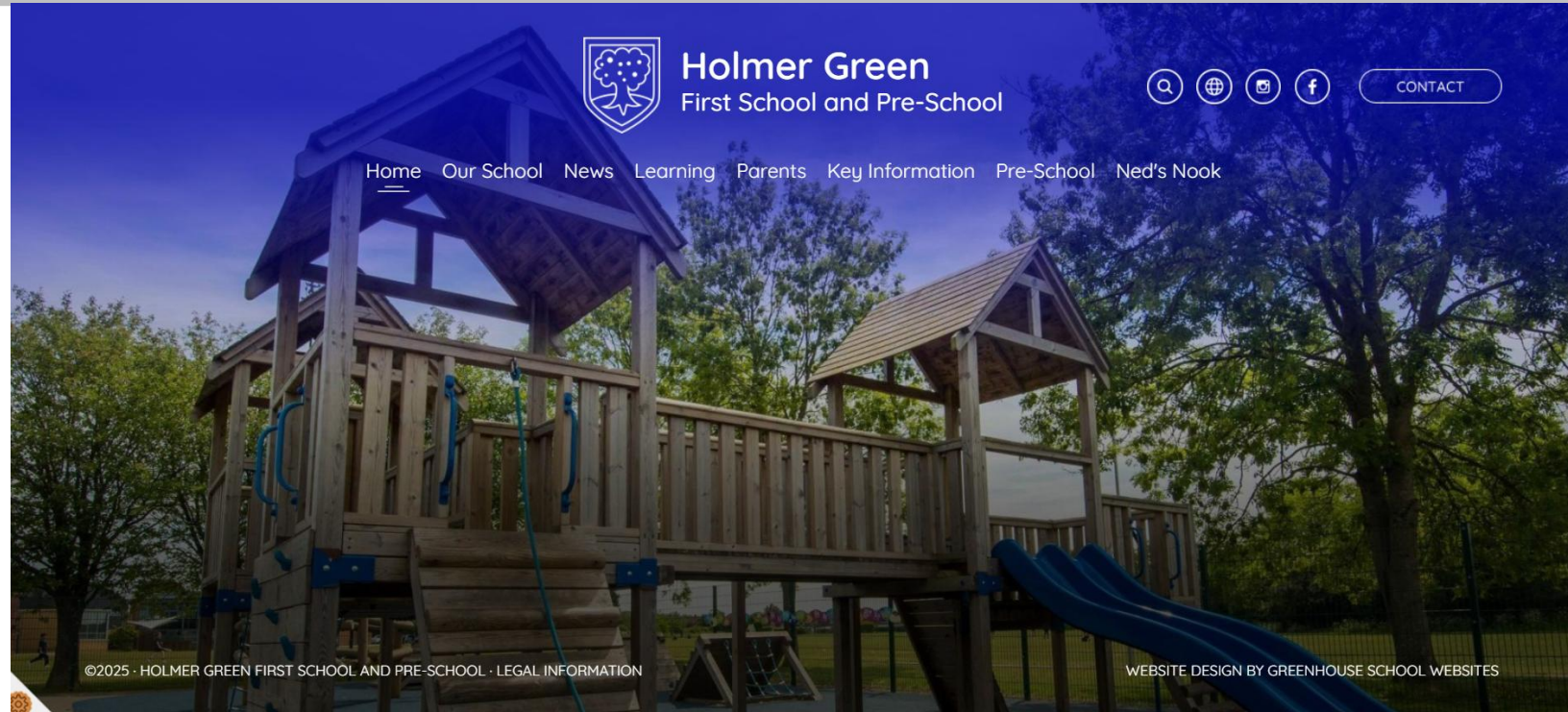
More information can be found on: <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/>



Website



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<http://www.holmergreenfirst.co.uk/>

All information you may need is on our website.

Able to link the calendar on your phone to the calendar on our website to stay up to date.



Instagram



Holmer Green
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hgfs.learning.through.play

Please follow the school account.

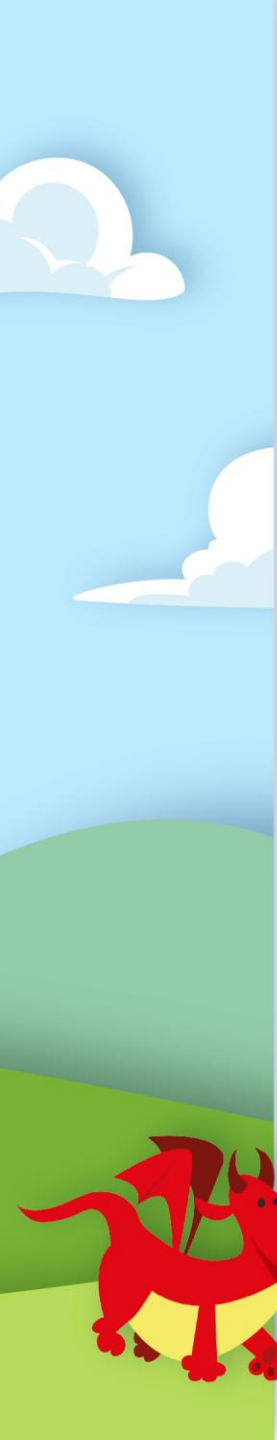
We use Instagram to post photographs and videos of activities which the children participate in and special events such as Sports Day and school trips.

We also post photographs of the classroom set up and activities which have been planned for your children – this can help you with providing support at home or provide you with the necessary information to talk to them about their day (they have often forgotten by the time they have got home!)

Also post pieces of amazing work produced by the children!

Followers include parents and other early years professionals.

Allows us to share our practice with other professionals around the world.





Thank You!

Teachers will be on hand at the end of the day when we dismiss the children if you need a quick chat.

Each Wednesday after school from 3.10pm - 3.30pm you are welcome to look at your child's work, books and displays in their classroom.

If you need to have a longer discussion, please do not hesitate to email or phone the office to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher.

