

Welcome!

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful half term and looking forward to our next spring term. A big well done to all the new children who have settled at our nursery and become familiar with our everyday routine. Our newsletters share with you any news, developments and information on the learning and events that are happening throughout the nursery.

Last half term we celebrated the Lunar New Year with children creating horse puppets to celebrate the year of the horse. Children also followed a recipe and used ingredients to make pancakes.

Thank you to the parents who attended our coffee morning with Christina the oral nurse from Kings College Hospital.

Please remember that you can access your child's learning and share home learning or experiences. Use the app Evidence me, [click here](#) to have a look at the parent help information.

Early Years Conversation Project

At Ethelred Nursery, we are using the ShREC approach to develop children's conversation skills. This approach supports interactive reading allowing the children to lead whilst looking at the book. [Click here](#) for more information.

Our Website - www.ethelrednursery.org.uk



Ethelred Nursery School & Children's Centre Information for parents and carers Spring 1



Reminders

If anyone else is collecting your child on your behalf, could you please call the school first and give the name of the person collecting and share the password with them. This will ensure a smooth pickup and ensure the children's safety.

In addition, if you are going to be late, please give us a call so we can reassure your child. It is very important that you arrive on time to drop off your child and again at collection time. We would also appreciate that you inform us early and keep us updated if your child is going to be absent.

As part of our daily routine, children attend group times with their key person. To make sure this time is most effective, we will ask that children do not arrive or are collected during these times. We will therefore ask any children arriving during these times to wait in the reception area until group time is finished and we will then welcome you into the classroom.

School Fund

We appreciate all donations we receive towards the school fund. The **weekly** donation for part-time children is £1, and £2 for full-time children. If you prefer to pay by card, we ask that you pay for the half, or full term.

Volunteering

If you are interested in volunteering at our school or elsewhere in the Federation please contact Monika office@maytree-school.org.uk

Birthday celebrations

At Ethelred Nursery, we celebrate all children's birthday within key groups. If you so wish to, please bring in a nut free cake including a list of ingredients for your child to share with their friends.

Dates for your diary

Below are listed some key dates coming up:

Spring Term 4 2026

Thurs 5th March
Thurs 12th March
Thurs 26th March
Fri 27th March

World Book Day
Mother's Day Stay and Play
Last day for children
Parent Conferencing -
closed to children

EASTER HOLIDAY

Monday 30th March-Fri 10th April

Summer Term 5 2026

Mon 13th April
Mon 4th May
Fri 22nd May

First day for all
Bank holiday
Last day for all

HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 25th-Friday 29th May

Summer Term 6 2026

Mon 1st June
Tues 2nd June
Thurs 16th July
Fri 17th July
Mon 20th July

Inset day
Children start
Last day for all children
Parent conferencing
Inset day

Nurture Room

This is what we will be learning at school:

PSED

- I am beginning to have my own friends.
- I understand that actions have consequences but not always the consequences hoped for.

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

- I can maintain focus and attention for up to 5 minutes across two or more different adult led activities.

LITERACY

- I can request songs, joining in with repeated refrains and actions.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- I am beginning to enjoy the responsibility of carrying out tasks within the classroom environment.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- I am beginning to use alternate feet when climbing stairs or equipment.
- I am beginning to develop fine motor control- manipulating a range of malleable materials by squashing and squeezing.

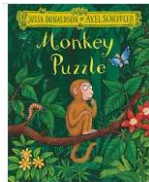
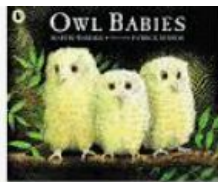
MATHS

- I can understand the concept, more, less and the same.

EXPRESSIVE ART and DESIGN

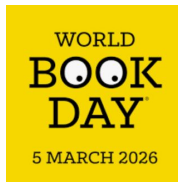
- I am beginning to develop confidence to use one handed tools and equipment.

Previous and current core books for this term



Parent corner

Our next coffee morning is **Thursday 19th March 2026 at 9:15am**. Focus of discussion developing independence and self help skills. Refreshments will be provided.



Thursday 5th March we will be celebrating world book day. Children are invited to come dressed up as a character from a book and or bring in their favourite story to share with their friends at group time.



Mothers Day celebration Stay and Play
Thursday 12th March 9:30am-11:00am or
1:00pm to 2:30pm.

Top tips for teeth

The oral health nurse Christina provided excellent advice for parents during our coffee morning. Please [click here](#) for more information on how to look after your children's teeth.

Learning at home

Reading

Daily reading: Looking at and talking about the pictures is a great way to encourage your child to enjoy books.

How to make a sensory bottle:

- 1-Fill the bottle 1/3 full with clear glue.
- 2-Add warm water until the bottle is almost full.
- 3-Mix in glitter, sequins, or other visual elements.
- 4-Add a drop or two of food colouring if desired.
- 5-Seal the lid tightly and use tape if needed.
- 6-Shake well and observe the calming movement.

Using a sensory bottle supports emotional regulation and supports focus and attention.

Orange Room

This is what we will be learning at school

PSED

- I am beginning to develop an understanding of other children's emotions.

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

- I can listen to adults with interests during storytelling and singing .

LITERACY

- I can retell familiar stories, using props and puppets to support and use some story language in my play.
- I can request songs, joining in with repeated refrains and actions.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- I am beginning to develop an awareness of similarities and differences between myself and other people.
- I am beginning to enjoy the responsibility of carrying out tasks within the classroom environment.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- I can run safely on my whole foot, looking where I am going to avoid obstacles.
- I am beginning to develop fine motor control- manipulating a range of malleable materials by squashing and squeezing.

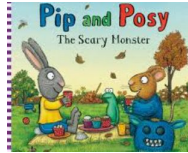
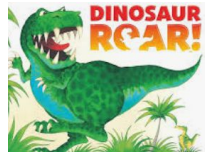
MATHS

- I am starting to tag objects with the number word.

EXPRESSIVE ART and DESIGN

- I can choose the materials I would like to use in a task.

Current core books for this term



Parent corner

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WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

5 MARCH 2026

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Learning at home

Reading

Daily reading: Look and talk about the pictures of the book, Support your child's vocabulary e.g. 'I can see the big red balloon'.

Let's make playdough to support fine motor skills

[Click here](#) for an easy recipe to make playdough at home with your child.

Ingredients:

- 8 tbsp plain flour.
- 2 tbsp table salt.
- 60ml warm water.
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil.

Green Room

This is what we will be learning at school

PSED

- I understand that actions have consequences but not always the consequences hoped for.
- **COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE**
- I use and answer 'who' questions.
- I use longer, more complex sentences to express thoughts and feelings.
- I use talk in play to organise a group of friends in a game or task.

LITERACY

- I attempt to write my own name, or other words using a combination of lines, circles and letter like shapes.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- I understand the key features of a plant and animal life cycle.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- I become aware of how to manage risk and be safe in the outdoor environment.
- I join in with large group, movement activities.

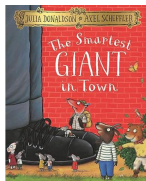
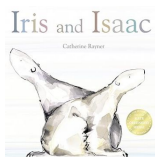
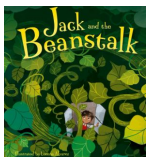
MATHS

- I explore differences in size, length, weight and capacity and use comparative language eg. Bigger/smaller, high/ low.

EXPRESSIVE ART and DESIGN

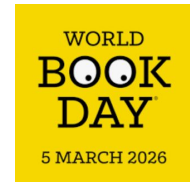
- I add detail to mark making, expressing emotions in drawings and paintings.

Current core books for this term



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Learning at home

Support your child's mark making skills

Provide your child with a range of mark making resources such as paper, card, cardboard, felt tip pens, colouring pencils, crayons, paint and chalk. Once they have completed their drawing see if they can give meanings to marks and tell you what they have drawn.

Reading

Whilst reading daily with your child, give them the opportunity to explore the pages and then comment on what they see. After, allow your child to respond to your comment. This will allow you to see what your child might say next and then you can enhance their vocabulary. [Click here](#) for an example.