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Together we *learn*, *grow* and *dream*

## Butterflies Nursery: Half-Termly Curriculum Snapshot

### Welcome to our Learning Journey!

This overview is designed to give you a 'snapshot' of the exciting and purposeful learning that will be taking place in Butterflies. It is a guide to the key learning experiences and themes that will underpin our activities and play.

What an incredible first half term it has been! 🦋 From adventurous bear hunts to making delicious pumpkin soup, the children have settled beautifully into nursery life and embraced every new experience with enthusiasm. We are so proud of how well they've adapted and can't wait for another exciting half term filled with fun, learning, and discovery!

This half term, our focus question is **'What does Winter look like?'** We'll be exploring seasonal changes and taking part in lots of exciting activities, including learning about Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, and the Nativity Story. We'll also be discovering how different families celebrate special times and observing the wonderful changes that happen as we move through the winter season.

## Our Learning this Half-Term

### Communication and Language 🗣️

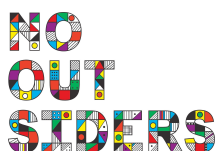
**Key Learning Focus:** Listen attentively in a range of situations, ask questions and listen to the response, follow one-step and two-step instructions and extend our vocabulary exploring the meaning and sounds of words.

**How we will learn:** We'll be supporting the children to develop new vocabulary, speak in full sentences, and build confidence when sharing ideas with others. Through role play, storytelling, and meaningful conversations, children will continue to grow as thoughtful listeners and expressive speakers. We are continuing to build on our Makaton skills to develop our communication with others.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development ❤️

**Key Learning Focus:** Learning about our emotions, building friendships and becoming more independent in our daily routines.

**How we will learn:** We will support them to recognise and express their feelings, take turns in group activities, and show sensitivity to others. Through collaborative tasks and festive preparations, they will build confidence, deepen friendships, and develop a growing sense of community within the classroom.



## Physical Development

**Key Learning Focus:** Mastering our gross motor skills (e.g., running, jumping, climbing) and refining our fine motor skills (e.g., using scissors, painting, building with small bricks).

**How we will learn:** We will continue to support children's physical development through a range of purposeful and practical activities. Children will refine their fine motor skills through mark making, cutting, threading, and using a variety of tools and materials with increasing control. We'll also focus on developing gross motor confidence through outdoor play, climbing, balancing, dancing, and moving in different ways. As the weather changes, children will be encouraged to independently manage zips, boots, and coats, supporting self-care and growing independence. Daily routines, movement games, and time in provision will all help children build strength, coordination, and confidence in their bodies.

## Literacy

**Key Learning Focus:** Explore mark-making and experiment with different tools. With support, start to recognise and name some letters, especially those in their own name, and begin linking sounds to letters. They will also practise hearing initial sounds in words and give meaning to the marks they make.

**How we will learn:** We will continue to nurture children's love of reading and early writing through daily story times, talk-rich activities, and meaningful mark making opportunities. Children will explore a wide range of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, developing their understanding of story structure, characters, and new vocabulary. In writing, we'll encourage children to make marks with purpose.

## Mathematics

**Key Learning Focus:** Developing our knowledge and understanding of numbers to 10 and exploring length and capacity. Counting accurately using 1-1 correspondence and matching written and spoken numerals. Practise correct number formation and shape recognition.

**How we will learn:** Children will continue to explore number through real-life contexts and purposeful play. We will focus on building a deep understanding of numbers to 5 and beyond - looking at counting, recognising numerals, and comparing quantities using everyday language. Children will explore patterns, shape, size, and position through hands-on activities in both indoor and outdoor provision.

## Understanding the World

**Key Learning Focus:** Take part in Christmas celebrations and observe and discuss changes in the environment as the season changes into Winter. Continue to learn about some of the Global Goals.

**How we will learn:** We will encourage children to notice similarities and differences, ask questions, and share what they know about their own lives and others'. Outdoor learning and nature walks will help them observe change and talk about the natural world as we move through autumn into winter.

## Expressive Arts and Design

**Key Learning Focus:** Exploring different colours and textures, creating models using junk materials, and singing songs related to our topic.

**How we will learn:** Children will use a wide range of creative materials to respond to stories,

music, and traditions linked to celebrations and festivals. They will have the chance to make decorations, cards, props, and festive artwork using a variety of tools and techniques. Imaginative play will be supported through themed role play and small world setups, encouraging storytelling and character expression. Children will also explore music and movement inspired by different cultures, and begin to talk about their creative choices with increasing confidence.

### Our Curriculum 'Golden Threads' ✨

**Global Citizenship:** We are nurturing global citizens. We will be linking our learning to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development as 'golden threads' throughout our half-term. Last half term we introduced Global Goal 2 - Zero Hunger. This half term we will see where the children's interests take us and which Global Goals link to their learning.

### Supporting Learning at Home 🏠

**Read Together Every Day:** Spend time reading books, pointing out pictures, and talking about the story and characters. This simple activity is vital for building their vocabulary and fostering a love for reading.

**Encourage Independence with Daily Tasks:** Give your child small, manageable "jobs" like putting away their toys, setting out plates for dinner, or helping to put on their shoes. This boosts their self-esteem and develops important fine motor and life skills..

**Explore:** Go on walks, visit a park, or look at things together outside. Point out what you see and discuss it.

### Ways you can help your child

- *Please send your child in with a named water bottle each day - water only please*
- *Please make sure your child's nursery items are all labelled. As the colder days are here, please practise zipping up coats and putting on gloves! Ask them to show you the coat magic trick!*

We believe in a strong partnership between home and school. Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you have any questions or would like further ideas on how to support learning at home.



Best wishes,

The Butterflies Team - Mrs Crawford, Mrs McShane, Miss Power and Mrs Whittaker

Wincham Community Primary School and Nursery