

Welcome to our class!

A very warm welcome to all of our new families. We are so excited to begin this special journey together and cannot wait to get to know each and every one of your children.

★ Our topic this half term is...

Ta daa! It's Me!

We will be spending our first half term getting to know ourselves and each other. We'll be exploring what makes us special and unique, talking about our families and the people who are important to us, exploring our feelings and emotions, developing friendships and celebrating all the wonderful things we can do!



A few little reminders

To keep things simple, your child only needs to bring:

- ♥ Water bottle
- ♥ Book bag
- ♥ Packed lunch (if they are not having a school dinner)



Snack

We provide snack for the children each day and aim to offer a variety of fresh, healthy and nutritious options for them to enjoy.

We kindly ask for a £10 donation at the beginning of each half term. This enables us to regularly purchase fresh and healthy options for the children and gives us the opportunity to provide a lovely variety of snacks throughout the term.



We are incredibly excited for everything this year will bring, the friendships, the learning, the laughter and all of the memories we will make together.

Here is to the beginning of a very special year. ♥

Welcome to our class, Gnomes!

Miss Unwin and Miss Mills ☺



Independence

We really encourage our Gnomes to manage their own belongings and be as independent as possible from the very beginning. Carrying their own things is a lovely way to build their confidence and independence, and it also helps them to learn what they have with them and remember what they need to bring home each day.



Please label

Please also make sure that anything your child brings to school is clearly labelled with their name. This helps us to make sure their belongings find their way safely back to them.



Most importantly...

Please do not worry if those first few days feel a little overwhelming, for you or for your child. Starting school is a huge milestone, and settling in takes time. We will be there to reassure, encourage and celebrate our Gnomes as they begin this exciting new chapter.



What We're Learning This Half Term

Ta daa! It's Me!

Autumn 1



Communication & Language

- ♥ Listening carefully to adults and responding to our name.
- ♥ Beginning to take turns in conversations.
- ♥ Speaking in simple sentences and sharing our ideas.
- ♥ Talking about ourselves, our families, friends and feelings.
- ♥ Asking and answering simple questions.
- ♥ Developing our vocabulary and using new words.
- ♥ Enjoying and talking about stories, songs and rhymes.



Literacy

- ♥ Enjoying stories and handling books carefully.
- ♥ Recognising our own names.
- ♥ Developing pencil control and fine-motor skills.
- ♥ Exploring meaningful mark making.
- ♥ Beginning to write our own names.
- ♥ Retelling familiar stories using pictures and props.
- ♥ Giving meaning to our drawings and early writing.
- ♥ Developing confidence in oral storytelling.



Physical Development

Get Set 4 PE – Introduction to PE

- ♥ Developing pencil grip and control.
- ♥ Exploring fine-motor activities such as threading and dough work.
- ♥ Developing scissor skills.
- ♥ Using classroom tools and equipment safely.
- ♥ Introduction to PE through Get Set 4 PE.
- ♥ Developing fundamental movement skills.
- ♥ Building confidence, balance and coordination.
- ♥ Exploring gross-motor equipment during continuous provision.
- ♥ Becoming increasingly independent with dressing, tidying and self-care.



Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- ♥ Settling into school and learning our daily routines.
- ♥ Making new friends and developing positive relationships.
- ♥ Building confidence and self-esteem.
- ♥ Understanding that everyone is unique and special.
- ♥ Talking about our feelings and recognising emotions in others.
- ♥ Learning to share, take turns and cooperate.
- ♥ Developing independence, resilience and perseverance.
- ♥ Celebrating our own achievements and the achievements of others.



Mathematics – White Rose Maths

- ♥ Match, Sort and Compare
- ♥ Talk About Measure
- ♥ Explore Patterns
- ♥ It's Me 1, 2, 3
- ♥ Circles and Triangles



Understanding the World

- ♥ Exploring our new school environment.
- ♥ Meeting the adults who help us at school.
- ♥ Learning about ourselves and our unique features.
- ♥ Talking about our families, homes and the people who care for us.
- ♥ Exploring similarities and differences between ourselves and others.
- ♥ Learning about feelings and how they affect us.
- ♥ Talking about our strengths, interests and talents.
- ♥ Recognising that everyone contributes something special to our class.



Expressive Arts & Design

- ♥ Creating self-portraits using a range of media.
- ♥ Creating family portraits and creative materials.
- ♥ Exploring role play through homes, friendships and emotions.
- ♥ Singing songs, rhymes and action games.
- ♥ Expressing feelings and ideas through art and play.
- ♥ Creating a 'Super Duper Me' self-portrait.
- ♥ Exploring construction and junk modelling.

