

CURRICULUM LETTER

Pre-School - Spring 1



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Exwick Heights Primary School

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Tuesday 6th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Exwick Heights Primary School Pre-School pupils,
Happy New Year! We have a very busy half term ahead!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development



This half term, we will be learning about the theme: Dreams & Goals. Through a range of adult-led and child-initiated activities, we will be learning: to understand what challenge means and to keep trying; to set a goal, work towards it and feel proud upon achieving it; and to know kind words of encouragement in helping others to achieve their goals. As part of our learning, we will also consider jobs we would like to do when we are older.

Supporting your child at home: *identify something that your child finds tricky to do and set the challenge of overcoming it e.g. fastening buttons or zips on clothes.*

Communication, Language and Literacy

Foundations for Phonics - the earliest phase of our Little Wandle programme - is taught daily. When tuning into sounds, we will be learning to identify initial sounds in words, for names of objects and our names; in particular, we will focus on the sounds m d g o c k e. We will also be learning to blend a wider range of consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words using oral blending; for example, learning to blend the sounds d-o-g to say 'dog'. Please note: we are listening to, and saying sounds in words but not introducing letters/graphemes at this stage.



We will be increasing our repertoire of nursery rhymes by learning and joining in with the nursery rhymes - *Round and Round the Garden, Down at the Station* and *Pat-a-Cake*; videos illustrating these rhymes can be found on the Little Wandle website in the parents section. We will also be learning to recognise and make rhymes during rhyme time activities. We will continue to develop our love of reading through daily story times and linked activities – over this half term, these will focus on the themes of *Bears* and *Food*, including *Pancake Day*.

Supporting your child at home: *please continue to take every opportunity to share books and read with your child, as it makes a huge and positive difference to their learning and development. If you need any support in accessing texts at home, please do let us know.*

Mathematics

Through a variety of daily routines and playful activities, we will be learning to show 1, 2 or 3 fingers in different contexts and to say these numbers in order; we will begin to explore position and routes using positional language, such as 'on', 'under', 'over', 'through' and 'between'; and we will also be learning to make simple line patterns with objects, as well as make and explain simple pattern arrangements.

Supporting learning at home: *when sharing stories, encourage your child to talk about what they can see in the pictures and recognise small quantities (1, 2, 3 objects) without counting; encourage them to represent these numbers on their fingers. Continue to sing counting rhymes, using fingers.*



Physical Development

As part of daily continuous & enhanced provision, children will have a broad range of opportunities indoors and out, to develop their fine and gross motor skills.

Supporting learning at home: please plan time to share active and/or outdoor play with your child. This might include: messy play, jumping, walking, dancing, swimming, climbing, skipping, games such as hide and seek, throwing and catching, scooting, riding a trike/bike and other outdoor activities.



In **Understanding the World**, we will be exploring sound, and then learning that there are different countries in the world. We will also be learning to talk about changing materials when making pancakes for Pancake Day.



In **Expressive Arts and Design**, we will have varied opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling exploration and play with a wide range of media and materials. A variety of creative activities will link to our themes of *Bears, Food and Pancake Day*.

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher directly or email admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk; your query will be passed to them. If you have any concerns or want to bring something to our attention, please don't hesitate to ask one of us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sam Hannaford
Pre-School Lead

Miss L. Bradbury
Assistant Headteacher