English Curriculum

Long Term English Coverage

Seeds

Together we learn, grow and achieve

Our English curriculum aims to raise aspiration and close disadvantage gaps by promoting high standards of language and literacy for every child. Rooted in our values—**Together We Learn, Grow and Achieve**—we equip pupils with a strong command of both spoken and written language and nurture a love of literature through reading for pleasure. In our community, where many children have limited early language experiences, these skills are vital. They empower pupils to learn confidently, grow in knowledge and independence, and achieve the foundations needed to participate fully and equally in society.

Favourite Five

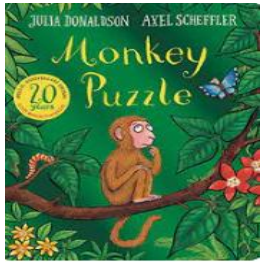
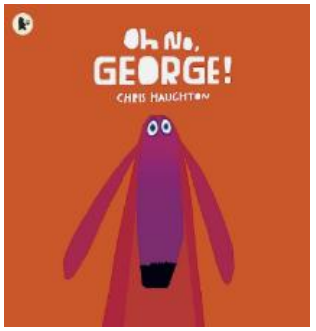
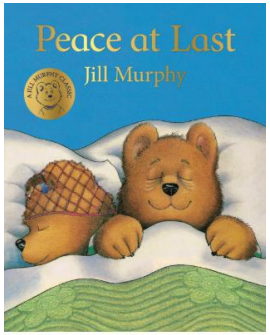
We are committed to fostering a love of reading by ensuring all children are exposed to a wide range of high-quality texts from the moment they join us. Through daily shared reading, access to our *Favourite Five* books and inviting reading spaces, we provide rich opportunities for children to explore stories, songs, rhymes, and non-fiction. Our aim is to develop children's language, vocabulary, comprehension, and confidence as early readers by offering repeated, meaningful encounters with familiar texts alongside opportunities to discover new ones. In line with Development Matters, we aim to build strong foundations for literacy by modelling language, supporting story recall and encouraging children to retell and engage independently with books. This approach is particularly important in our context, where some children may have limited access to books at home. Therefore, we are committed to creating a language-rich environment that promotes curiosity, imagination, and a lifelong enjoyment of reading for every child.

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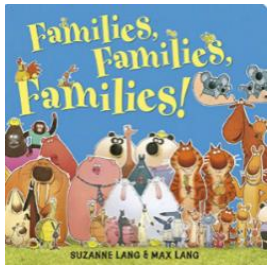
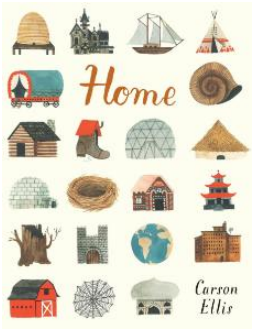
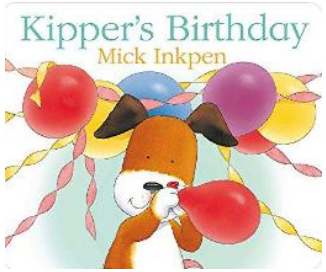
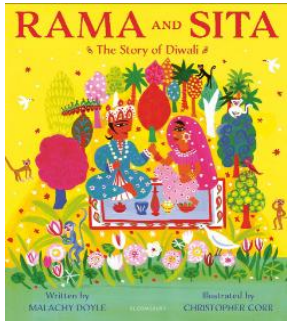
AUTUMN TERM FAVOURITE FIVE				
				
The Tiger Who Came to Tea Judith Kerr	**Monkey Puzzle** Julia Donaldson	**Not A Stick** Antoinette Portis	**Oh No George!** Chris Haughton	**Peace at Last** Jill Murphy
This story was chosen because it's a highly engaging text that supports early language and literacy development through repetitive language, rich illustrations, and a simple narrative structure. The story encourages discussion, vocabulary growth, retelling, and imaginative play, while fostering a love of stories and reading.	Monkey Puzzle encourages discussion, prediction, and retelling while introducing children to a range of animals and their features. Its vibrant illustrations and familiar theme of family help to develop comprehension and communication skills.	This simple yet engaging text encourages imagination, creativity, and spoken language development. The minimal text and clear illustrations support early comprehension while inspiring children to use their own ideas in imaginative play. The story promotes an understanding that objects can be represented in different ways.	This story was chosen as an engaging and humorous text. The story supports early language and literacy development through simple, repetitive language and expressive illustrations. Oh no George encourages discussion about choices, behaviour, and emotions, while providing opportunities for prediction, retelling, and vocabulary development.	This classic was selected as its highly engaging and supports early language and literacy development through repetitive language, familiar experiences, and a clear story structure. The story encourages prediction, retelling, and discussion, while helping children explore sounds, emotions, and daily routines. Its humorous too!

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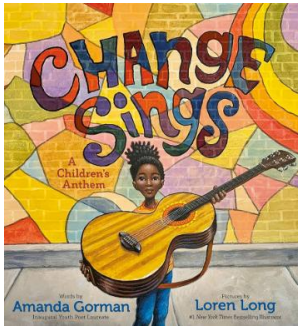
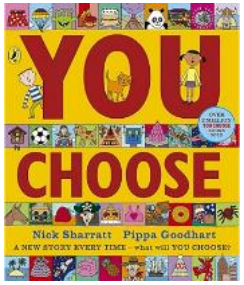
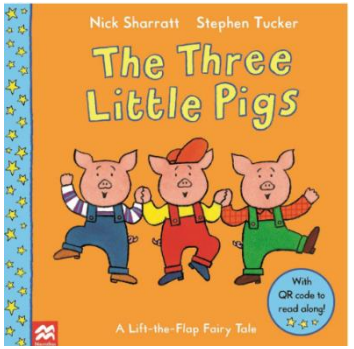
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Other Autumn Term Texts				
				
Families, Families, Families Suzanne Lang	**Home** Carson Ellis	**Kippers Birthday** Mick Inkpen	**Rama and Sita the story of Diwali** Malachy Doyle	**Maisy's Christmas Eve** Lucy Cousins
This text uses humorous animal portraits, to illustrate a wide range of diverse family structures—including single-parent, same-sex, blended, and multi-generational homes. This provides children with a vital "mirror" to see their own lives validated and a "window" into the lives of others. The simple, rhythmic rhyme builds phonological awareness and encourages active vocal participation, while the central message—that a family is defined by	Home teaches about a diverse range of dwellings through its beautifully detailed illustrations —ranging from familiar flats and countryside houses to natural animal habitats and fantastical spaces—the book invites children to compare environments and discuss what makes a space a "home." The repetitive, inquisitive text prompts active discussion, expanding vocabulary while encouraging critical thinking.	Through Kipper's humorous confusion over "yesterday, today, and tomorrow," the narrative introduces early time concepts and sequential language in a highly relatable context. The story explores friendships, feelings of anticipation, and personal celebrations. Additionally, the clear, bold illustrations and inviting plot provide a perfect springboard for purposeful, real-world role-play, such as writing invitations, counting candles, and planning a party.	This traditional tale introduces nursery children to cultural celebrations, religious diversity, and the foundational concept of the festival of lights. The narrative provides a highly engaging context for exploring overarching themes of friendship, bravery, and the triumph of good over evil.	Through the familiar, comforting characters, the story explores themes of friendship, collaboration, and caring for others as the characters work together to decorate and find their missing friend, Eddie. The text provides a highly visual, accessible framework for introducing seasonal traditions, cold weather concepts, and spatial vocabulary The simple narrative structure provides an engaging, inclusive entry point for young learners to

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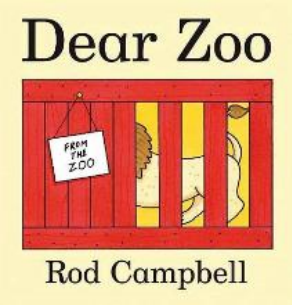
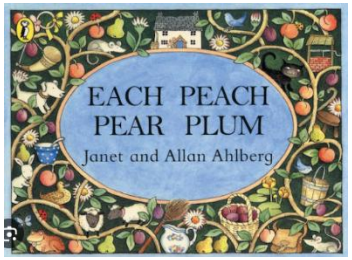
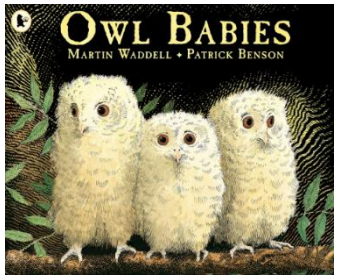
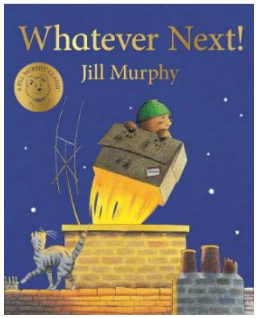
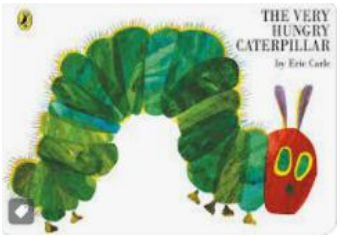
love—creates an inclusive, welcoming foundation for our nursery community.				share their own holiday experiences and build a sense of classroom community.
				
Change Sings Amanda Gorman	**You Choose** Pippa Goodhart	**The First Christmas** Bible Story	**The Three Little Pigs** Nick Sharratt	
The text promotes themes of hope, identity, equality, community and positive change. The message that "small voices can create big change" helps the children develop confidence, aspiration and agency.	Rather than following a linear narrative, the book utilises highly engaging, catalog-style illustrations to place the child entirely in control of the storytelling. This format serves as an exceptional catalyst for child-initiated conversation, encouraging children to express personal preferences, justify their decisions, and negotiate choices with peers.	This accessible retelling of the Nativity introduces young learners to the religious origins of Christmas, fostering early cultural awareness and respect for diverse community traditions. The clear, traditional storyline offers simple sequential structures that help nursery children practice retelling events in order.	The three little pigs is a well-loved traditional tale that supports early language development, listening skills, and story comprehension. Through repetitive phrases and a clear narrative structure, children are encouraged to join in with storytelling, build vocabulary, and develop confidence in speaking.	

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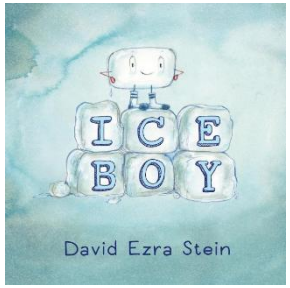
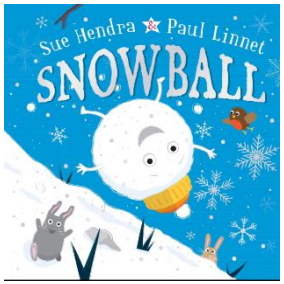
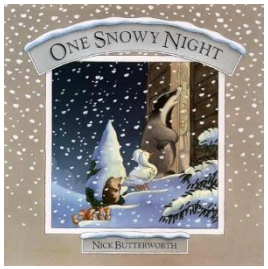
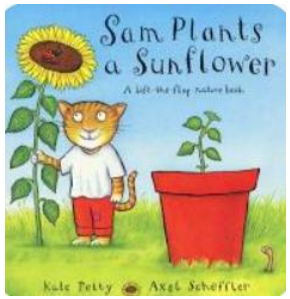
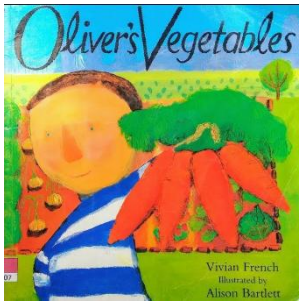
SPRING TERM FAVOURITE FIVE				
				
Dear Zoo Rod Campbell	**Each Peach Pear Plum** Janet & Allan Ahlberg	**Owl Babies** Martin Waddell	**Whatever Next** Jill Murphy	**The Very Hungry Caterpillar** Eric Carle
Dear Zoo is a foundational narrative selected because of its highly structured, predictable framework. Predictability of a text reduces cognitive overload, allowing children to focus listening skills. The repetitive refrain serves as an entry point for absolute beginners to experience successful independent retelling.	Each Peach Pear Plum is a valuable text because its predictable rhyme, repetition, and rhythm support phonological awareness and early reading skills. The interactive "I spy" format encourages active participation, close observation, and comprehension, while introducing children to familiar nursery rhyme and fairy tale characters.	This text explores themes of separation, reassurance, and family relationships that are meaningful to young children. Its repetitive language and expressive illustrations support comprehension, emotional literacy, and discussion, helping children identify and talk about feelings in a safe and engaging way.	Whatever Next encourages imagination, creativity, and storytelling. Its simple narrative structure and familiar language support comprehension and sequencing skills, while the adventure theme inspires children to explore ideas through discussion, role-play, and imaginative play.	The Very Hungry Caterpillar is a valuable early year's text because its repetitive structure and predictable sequence support counting, days of the week, and early reading skills. The story also introduces children to life cycles and healthy eating in an engaging and memorable way.

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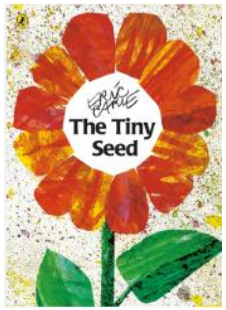
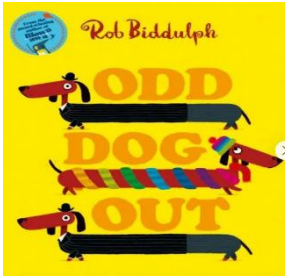
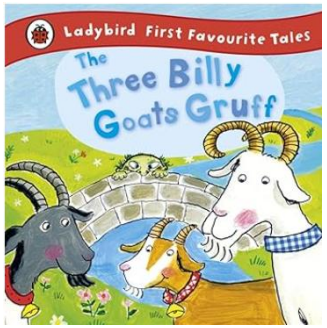
Other Spring Term Texts				
				
Ice Boy David Ezra Stein	**Snowball** Sue Hendra	**One Snowy Night** Nick Butterworth	**Sam Plants a Sunflower** Kate Petty	**Oliver's Vegetables** Vivian French
This text teaches themes of friendship, perseverance, and belonging. The simple narrative and expressive illustrations support comprehension, prediction, and discussion, helping children develop both language and social-emotional understanding.	This story uses humour, repetition, and engaging illustrations to capture children's interest and support comprehension. The story promotes themes of friendship, kindness, and inclusion, while encouraging discussion, prediction, and vocabulary development.	One Snowy Night explores themes of kindness, friendship, and caring for others. Its simple narrative and detailed illustrations support comprehension and discussion, while the winter setting provides opportunities to develop vocabulary and understanding of the world around us.	This text teaches plant growth and the natural world through a simple, engaging narrative. The story supports early scientific understanding, sequencing skills, and vocabulary development, while encouraging curiosity about nature and caring for living things.	Oliver's Vegetables encourages children to explore healthy eating and where food comes from. The engaging story and familiar experiences support vocabulary development, comprehension, and discussion, while promoting curiosity about growing and trying different foods.

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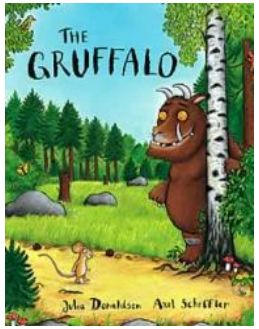
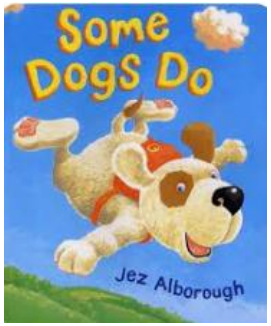
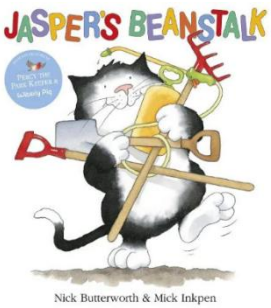
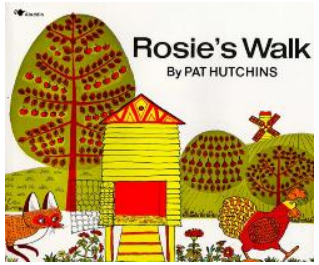
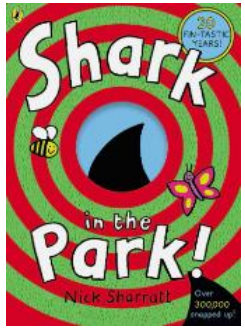
			
The Tiny Seed Eric Carle	**Odd Dog Out** Rob Biddulph	**The Three Billy Goats Gruff** Irene Yates	
The Tiny Seed introduces children to the life cycle of plants through a simple and engaging narrative. The story supports early scientific understanding, sequencing skills, and vocabulary development, while encouraging curiosity about growth, change, and the natural world.	Odd Dog Out links strongly to Anti-Bullying Week through its focus on difference, belonging and acceptance. The story provides an accessible way for our pupils to explore how it feels to be left out, judged or seen as "different," helping children develop empathy and understanding.	This classic traditional tale supports the development of early language, communication, and literacy skills. The text provides opportunities to explore characters, sequencing, size comparison, and problem-solving, while also promoting discussion about feelings and behaviour.	

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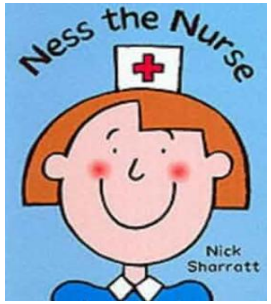
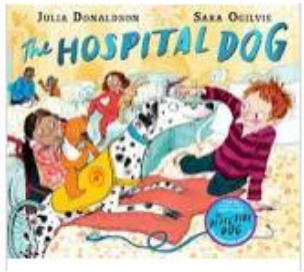
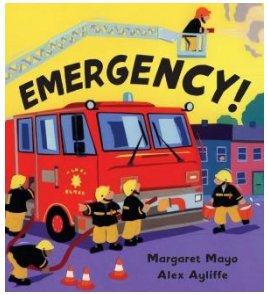
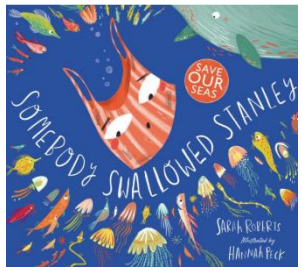
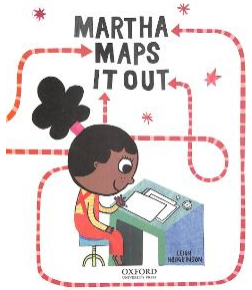
SUMMER TERM FAVOURITE FIVE				
				
The Gruffalo Julia Donaldson	**Some Dogs Do** Jez Alborough	**Jaspers Beanstalk** Nick Butterworth	**Rosie's Walk** Pat Hutchins	**Shark in the Park** Nick Sharratt
This text explores repetitive rhyming structure and has rich vocabulary to support language development. The engaging story encourages prediction, comprehension, and discussion, while exploring themes of courage, problem-solving, and using wit to overcome challenges.	Some Dogs Do promotes themes of self-belief, resilience, and individuality. The simple narrative and engaging illustrations support comprehension and discussion, encouraging children to celebrate their strengths and persevere when faced with challenges.	Jasper's Beanstalk introduces children to plant growth through a simple and engaging story. The repeated weekly sequence supports understanding of days of the week and time, while encouraging patience, observation, and curiosity about the natural world.	This classic text uses simple language and detailed illustrations to encourage children to develop prediction and inference skills. The story teaches early understanding of positional language and sequencing.	Shark in the Park! uses repetitive language and predictable structure to support early reading and comprehension skills. The humorous story encourages children to make predictions, develop observation skills, and explore themes of imagination and perception.

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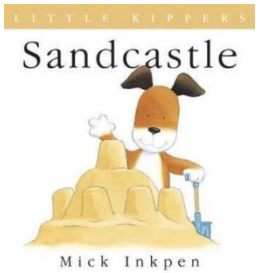
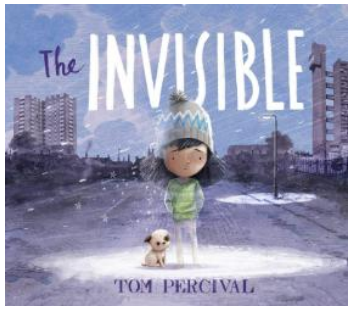
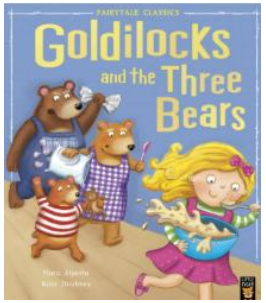
Other Summer Term Texts				
				
Ness the Nurse Nick Sharratt	**The Hospital Dog** Julia Donaldson	**Emergency!** Margaret Mayo	**Somebody swallowed Stanley** Sarah Roberts	**Martha Maps it out** Leigh Hodgkinson
Ness the Nurse introduces children to people who help us and the important role of healthcare professionals. The simple narrative and engaging illustrations support language development, comprehension, and discussion, while helping children build understanding of caring, empathy, and community.	This text explores themes of kindness, empathy, and helping others. The engaging story supports emotional literacy and discussion, while helping children develop an understanding of hospitals, wellbeing, and the positive impact of care and companionship.	Emergency celebrates the role of emergency services and the importance of helping others. The engaging narrative encourages an understanding of safety, responsibility, and community.	Somebody Swallowed Stanley teaches awareness of environmental issues through a simple and engaging narrative. The story supports vocabulary development and encourages discussion, while children think about caring for animals, oceans, and the environment.	Martha Maps It Out introduces children to early mapping skills and spatial awareness through an engaging narrative. The story supports vocabulary development, sequencing, and discussion, while encouraging children to think about journeys, directions, and representing places.

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Sancastle Mick Inkpen	**The Invisible** Tom Percival	**Goldilocks and the Three Bears** Mara Alperin	
Sandcastle was chosen as it uses simple language and engaging illustrations to support early discussion development. The story encourages imagination, prediction, and early storytelling skills, while exploring themes of play, creativity, and seaside experiences.	The story explores themes belonging, kindness and being seen and valued within a community. It helps pupils understand how feelings of isolation or invisibility can affect individuals, while promoting compassion and social responsibility. Using the book as a shared text helps build a nurturing school culture where pupils understand the importance of kindness, noticing others and ensuring nobody feels overlooked or excluded.	This version of the popular traditional tale was selected to support the development of early language, communication, and literacy skills in Nursery. The familiar story structure and repetitive language encourage children to participate in storytelling. The story provides opportunities to explore characters, sequencing, and concepts such as size, comparison, and consequences of actions.	