

## Nursery Peek at the Week

### Weekly News

This week in Nursery we have enjoyed World Nursery Rhyme Week. We joined in with the challenge to learn a new nursery rhyme each day. On Monday we learnt 'Sing a Song of Sixpence, which many of the children did not know. We spoke about the blackbirds baked in the pie and then decided to make our own 'Silly Soup.' Silly Soup is a phonics game where children can only place objects in the soup if they rhymed. We made many interesting soups containing a cat, a bat and a hat or a whale, snail and scale. On Tuesday we focussed on Humpty Dumpty which many of the children were already familiar with. We had lots of fun making different walls. On Wednesday we sang 'When I Was One,' this is a number rhyme about pirates. We then made lots of treasure maps to help the pirates find the treasure and the children produced some fantastic meaningful marks. On Thursday we sang the rhyme 'I hear Thunder' and used the rhyme to practise some new Dough Disco actions. We also had lots of our families join us for Early Bird sessions and it was lovely to share different rhyming activities altogether. On Friday, the children came to Nursery dressed as their favourite nursery rhyme character and we were very proud when lots of the children sang their chosen rhyme in front of their friends! We also enjoyed sharing the 'Two Little Dickie Birds' rhyme.

Next week we are joining the rest of the school in Around the World week. Each class will be learning about a different country. We will be learning all about Australia.

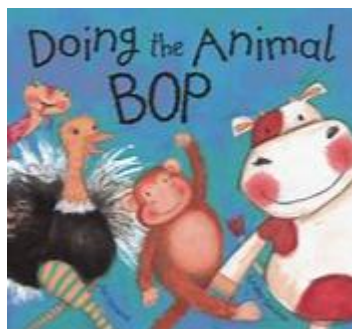
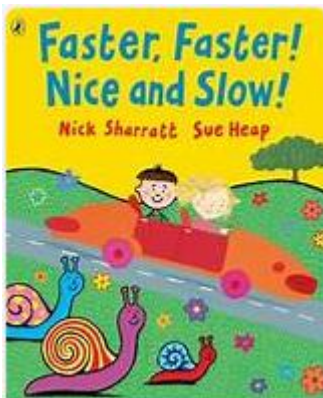
[aglover13@suttonmail.org](mailto:aglover13@suttonmail.org) -Annabel Glover-Nursery Class Teacher, EYFS lead and Phonics Lead

**REMEMBER No question or concern is too small, I would rather you email me than worry about something!**



Our 3 a day books for this half term are:

**3-a-day Stories:** The children have learnt our last 3 a day stories really well. These are our new 3 a day stories for this half term:



## Dip and Do: Home Learning:

- Can you practise each of the nursery rhymes we have learnt? You may find this link useful:

[World Nursery Rhyme Week 2025 Nursery Rhymes | Piccolo Music | Babies, Preschool, Children, Toddlers](#)

- Can you find some rhyming objects in your house? Maybe you can find a shoe and some glue. What else rhymes? We would love to see some photographs.
- Can you draw your favourite nursery rhyme character?
- Can you practise some of our Early Birds activities? See pictures below. If you would like any of the pictures for the rhyming games, please let me know.

### We are learning to sing Nursery Rhymes



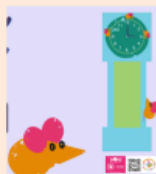
What nursery rhyme would you like to sing?  
Do you know all of the words to that rhyme?

What could you do if you don't know all of the words to the rhyme?  
Are there any props that you could use to help you to sing this rhyme?



### We are learning to sing Nursery Rhymes

#### Parent/Carer guide

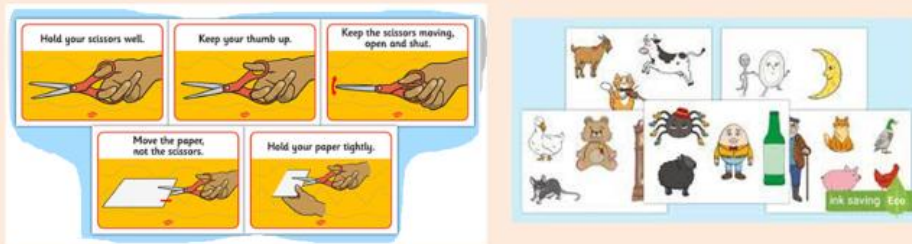


Nursery rhymes provide bite-sized learning opportunities for young children to develop key developmental skills and can often be the trigger for hours of creative and open-ended play. They are a powerful learning source in early literacy and enable children to become interested in the rhythm and patterns of language. Consider the alliteration (when words start with the same letter) in "A Sailor Went to Sea Sea Sea" and rhyme in "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star". Many nursery rhymes are also repetitive which can support the development of memory and kickstart the practice of listening and speaking.

Rhymes are fantastic vocabulary boosters. They often feature a pleasing rhythmic pattern and simple repetitive phrases that young children find easy to remember and repeat. In order to develop their phonological awareness, children need to be repeatedly exposed to spoken language and nursery rhymes provide the perfect way to do this.

Experts in literacy and child development have discovered that if children know eight nursery rhymes by heart by the time they're four years old, they're usually among the best readers by the time they're eight. -  
Mem Fox, Reading Magic.

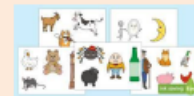
We are learning to use scissors with control.  
We are learning to sing nursery rhymes.



What nursery rhyme character are you going to make?  
How do we hold scissors correctly?  
What do we need to remember to be safe with scissors?  
Can you sing the rhyme to match your puppet?  
What are the rhyming words in this rhyme?

We are learning to use scissors with control.

### Parent/Carer guide



Opening and closing scissors helps children build up the small muscles in their hands. These muscles are important for everyday activities such as drawing, using cutlery, brushing your teeth and getting dressed.

It is important that children learn the correct way to hold and use scissors safely. If we allow children to use an in-correct grip then it is harder for them to re-learn how to do it correctly.

Practise makes skills permanent we need to try and help the children to practise the perfect way.

We are learning to use different materials to create Nursery Rhyme characters.



- What character are you going to make?
- Can you sing the Nursery Rhyme that they are in?
- What are the rhyming words in this rhyme?
- What body parts do they need?
- How many legs/eyes etc. do they need?
- How will you join your pieces together?

We are learning to use different materials to create Nursery Rhyme characters.



### Parent/Carer guide



While children are busy rolling, poking and squishing dough, they are building strength in the little muscles in their fingers and hands. These same muscles are used for later skills such as cutting and holding a pencil with a pincer grasp.

Children are also learning hand-eye coordination as they use their hands to shape play dough. Each different way children shape play dough—pushing, pulling, squashing, squeezing, rolling, chopping, cutting—builds fine motor development in a different way.

When playing with play dough, children are beginning to use symbolic thinking, or pretending the play dough is something else. This is an important skill for cognitive flexibility, and a way in which children express their ideas.

Children are also getting introduced to science and Maths when making the playdough as they are learning how to follow a recipe. They are also exploring measuring tools and using language such as cup, spoon, big and small.

We are learning to find matching rhyming words.



Can you name the objects that you can see in the pictures?

What is the main picture at the top of the paper?

Which object at the bottom of the paper rhymes with ....?

Remember when words rhyme it is the end of the words that sound the same.

We are learning to find matching rhyming words.



Parent/Carer guide



The pleasure of the rhyme is in the strong rhythm, created by the alternation of stressed and unstressed syllables. Repetition and predictability can make both the rhyming word and the whole rhyming text itself more memorable.

Experience with rhyming words also leads to rhyme awareness. Identifying or making words that rhyme. Studies have shown that in the early years, a child's rhyme awareness is predictive of the ease with which they will learn to read.

When children recite rhymes, they are learning to articulate words, modulate their voices and enunciate clearly.

Pupils develop their mouth and tongue muscles by saying different sounds in a rhyme, which is important when starting to read and learning how to pronounce letter sounds.

We are learning to find matching rhyming words.



Can you name the objects that you can see in the pictures?

Can you match the rhyming words?

Can you use the pipettes to spray the matching rhyming flames?

*Remember when words rhyme it is the end of the words that sound the same.*



We are learning to find matching rhyming words.



### Parent/Carer guide

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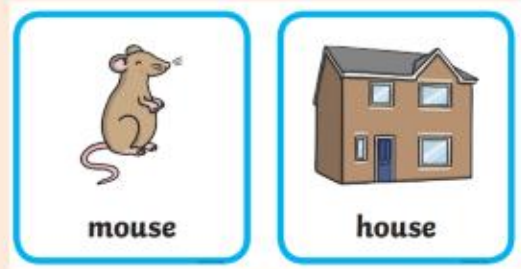
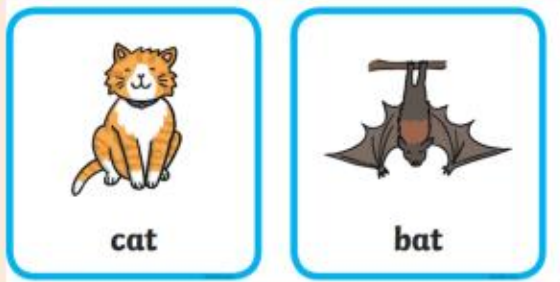
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### ***Fine motor development***

Squeezing pipettes is a great fine motor skill activity as it builds finger strength and supports the development of a pincer grip. Including pipettes with these activities also helps children develop hand-eye co-ordination.

We are learning to find matching rhyming words.



Can you name the objects that you can see in the pictures?

Can you match the rhyming words?

*Remember when words rhyme it is the end of the words that sound the same.*

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**Parent/Carer guide**



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## We are learning to identify rhymes in words. (Silly Soup)



Can you name all the objects ?

What do all the objects have in common?

*Remember when words rhyme it is the end of the words that sound the same.*

## We are learning to identify rhymes in words. (Silly Soup)

### How to play:

### Parent/Carer guide

Show the children the objects first and make sure they know what they are.

Introduce the activity- *today we will be making a silly soup.*

Sing the song to the rhyme **'pop goes the weasel'**

**' We are making lots of Silly soup'**

**'We are making soup that's Silly'**

**'We are going to put it in the fridge to make it nice and chilly'**

Take turns going around the circle and ask the children to repeat the objects after you, when they add it to the silly soup. At the end go through all the objects again.

### Why are 'rhymes' important?

Experience with rhyming words also leads to rhyme awareness. Identifying or making words that rhyme. Studies have shown that in the early years, a child's rhyme awareness is predictive of the ease with which they will learn to read.

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- **Apply for your child's Primary School Place**

Children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 are due to start primary school in September 2026.

Applications open on 1 September 2025 and close on 15 January 2026.

National offer day will be on 16 April 2026.

Please see the [Sutton Council Admissions Page](#) for guidance:

<https://www.sutton.gov.uk/w/applying-to-start-primary-school-1>

**Remember that having a Nursery space at Dorchester Primary School does not automatically give you a Reception place. You will still have to apply via the council website.**

If you would like to find out more about the school then please come to one of our open events.



**DORCHESTER  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## OPEN SCHOOL EVENTS

We would love to welcome you to visit our school during our open events.

- Monday 15th September 9:30am
- Tuesday 7th October 9:30am
- Wednesday 5th November 9:30am
- Thursday 27th November 7:00pm
- Friday 12th December 9:30am

Register your interest:  
🌐 [www.dorchesterprimary.com](http://www.dorchesterprimary.com)  
We look forward to meeting you

Dorchester Primary School  
Dorchester Road  
Worcester Park  
KT4 8PG  
☎ 020 8330 1144

## Important Dates

**Around the World Event - Monday 24th 3:30 - to 4pm** - visit classes around the school and see which country each class has been learning about.

**FODS Christmas Fair - Saturday 29th November -**

**Donkey Visit - Friday 12th December**

**EYFS Nativity (In the Main Hall)-**

**Tuesday 16th December- 9:30am**

**Wednesday 17th December- 2:15pm**

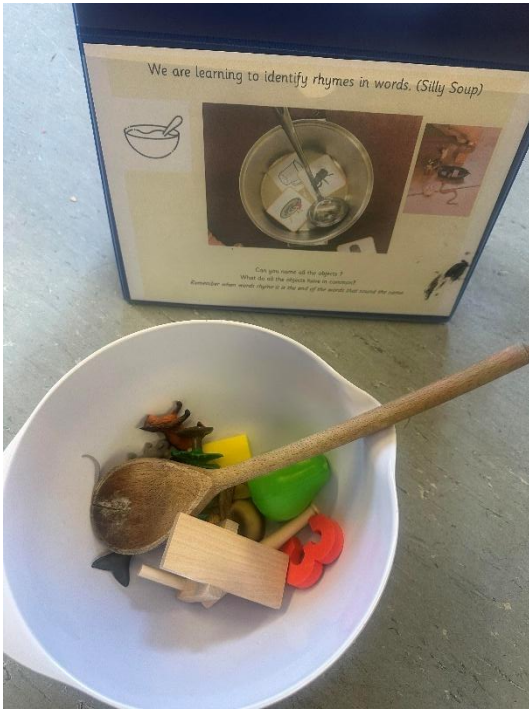
**Last Day Autumn 2 – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

What have we been learning in Nursery this week?



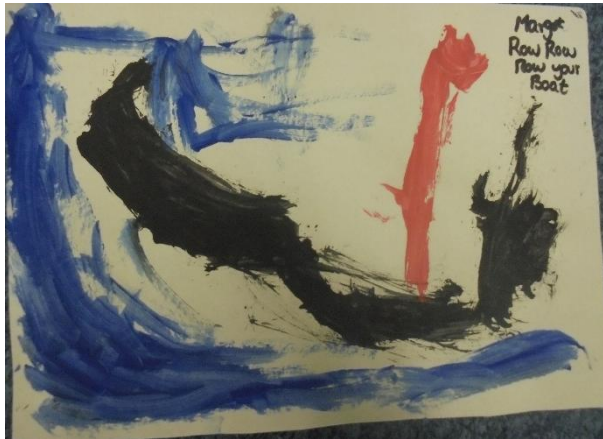






We have been painting pictures of some of our favourite nursery rhymes.





Look at these fantastic treasure maps:

