

## EYFS Term 4 Curriculum Newsletter

### Welcome back!

We hope you had a relaxing half-term and enjoyed spending time with loved ones.

We were so impressed last term with the progress the children have made and how well they are taking ownership of their learning. We can't wait to see how they grow this term!

If you are unsure of anything, we are always happy to answer any questions you have on Dojo!

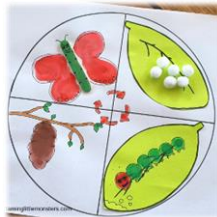
### Learning Rationale/Statement of Aims:

This term, as we move into Spring, our Topic is Growing!

This term we will become keen gardeners, horticulturalists and will work together to help to make Poplar Farm school a greener place.

We will be spending lots of time outside, observing the plants and flowers that grow at school and in our local area. Together we will learn through first hand experiences about the life cycle of plants and what we can do to help them to grow. The children in EYFS will use their own ideas to solve problems and explore this topic with open mindedness and curiosity, in line with the Poplar Promise.

We will think scientifically, making predictions about what will happen to seeds or plants in different situations and then test out our ideas. We will also think carefully about using our knowledge of growing to help animals and bugs, such as butterflies and bees. As well as thinking about the world, we will look at how plants can help us to grow up strong and healthy and link this with our PSHE topic for Term 4.



We will be watching the life-cycle of butterflies this term too using a butterfly garden in each class. We will also be planting lots of different seeds and plants and watching and monitoring them as they grow. We are very excited to see if we can grow some yummy, healthy vegetables to eat!



### Key Dates

Monday 21 February - Term 4 begins  
Monday 21 February - Start of Fairtrade Fortnight  
Monday 21 February - Child Measurement Program  
Tuesday 22 February - World thinking day  
Thursday 3 March - World Book Day  
Thursday 3 March - 2.45pm parents in school for shared reading event  
Tuesday 8 March - International Women's Day  
Monday 14 March - British Science Week  
Monday 14 March - Compost Week  
Monday 14 March - 2pm Science Open Afternoon for parents  
Wednesday 16 March - Lithuania Independence Day  
Friday 18 March - Global Recycling Day  
Friday 18 March - Comic Relief  
Monday 21 March - The big walk and wheel week  
Monday 21 March - World poetry day  
Monday 21 March - Afghanistan New Year

### PSHE

In PSHE we will be focussing our learning around the topic 'Healthy Me'. We will be thinking about making healthy choices, keeping safe, being a good friend and forming healthy relationships and how to deal with tricky situations.

### RE

This term in RE our focus will be 'Special times for me and others'. We will be thinking about different celebrations, for example, reflecting on Easter and the similarities and differences of religious and familiar celebrations.



### Literacy

This term we will be continuing with our 'Play Plans' linked to our topic. This term This builds on 'Plan do Review' and will give the children the opportunity to record a plan for their week, collect resources and complete

The enormous turnip story map



what they set out to do.

The children will use their skills in reading, writing and storytelling to create newspaper reports, record their findings when growing, write instructions and sequence and re-tell stories; building up to writing their own narrative piece.

### Maths

Children will continue to develop their understanding of the number system, focusing on addition and subtraction, sequencing number and solving different problems using number knowledge. They will gain confidence with mental maths including halves and doubles.



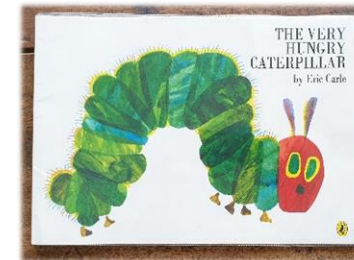
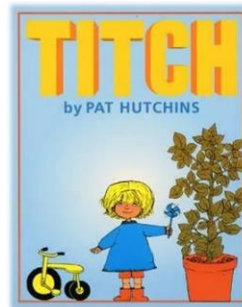
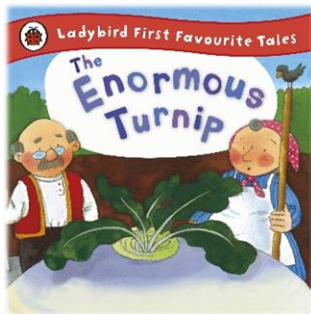
They will also use a variety of contexts e.g. money, length and capacity, to problem solve. Children will learn to use a wide range of measuring apparatus and use both standard and non-standard units of measurement.

## How can you help at home?

- Plant some seeds or bulbs and complete a growing diary or write instructions
- Go on walks and look for signs of spring – can you write them down?
- Encourage your children to help you write in meaningful contexts, such as, letters or shopping lists
- Sing along to your favourite song. Can you record the song using marks? Can you talk about the beat or pitch?
- Can you complete observational drawings of the world around you? Make sure to use the right colours.
- Measure how much your child grows over this term

## Books to explore

'Titch' by Pat Hutchins, 'Oliver's vegetables' by Vivian French, 'Jack and the Beanstalk' classic fairy tale, 'Jim and the Beanstalk' by Raymond Briggs, 'Jasper's beanstalk' by Nick Butterworth, 'I Really Wonder What Plant I'm Growing' (Charlie and Lola) by Lauren Child, 'The Enormous Potato' by Aubrey Davis, 'The Tiny Seed' by Eric Carle, 'Grandpa's Garden' by Stella Fry, 'Lift and Look – Flowers and Plants' from Kew Gardens: Tracy Cottingham, 'Wangari's Trees of Peace: A True Story from Africa' by Jeanette Winter, 'The Growing Story' by Helen Oxenbury, 'RHS Ready Steady Grow' by the Royal Horticultural Society.



## Websites to visit

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> - maths games

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/2> - phonics games

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b03y7mzj/topsy-and-tim-series-1-26-growing-sunflowers> - Topsy and Tim Grow sunflowers

[http://www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/scienceKS1/pdf/seeds\\_page\\_11.pdf](http://www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/scienceKS1/pdf/seeds_page_11.pdf) - Sunflower Diary support and template