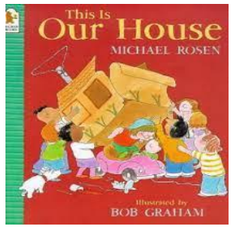
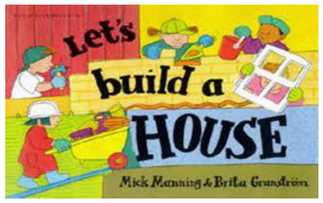
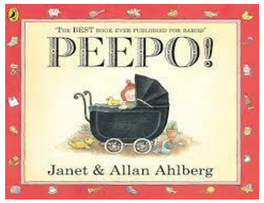
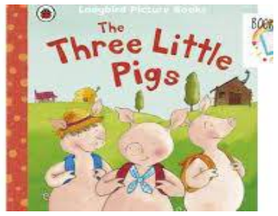
Who's at the door?

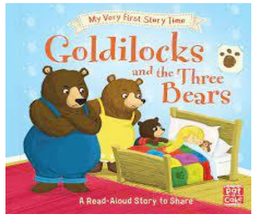
This term children will dive into the world of storybooks and traditional tales. Each week a new character will leave clues in our Nursery and children will learn about the associated story. Children will learn and apply new vocabulary and link this to skills such as building houses for the Three Pigs, or a waterproof coat for the Gingerbread Man.

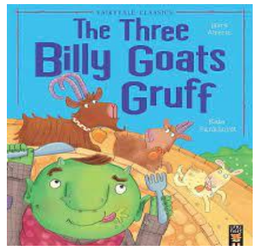












Communication and Language:

Talking focus- Using imagination to develop talk

Children will be supported to read longer stories and through props, puppets and other resources, will remember what they have read. Adults will model and encourage using talk to clarify thinking and connect new ideas. Children will be presented with problems to solve and will have opportunity to independently do this. They will be supported to extend their sentences, starting and building conversations with adults and other children.

Literacy:

This half term children will experience and join in with rhymes and be encouraged to spot and suggest rhymes. They will learn new vocabulary and understand how to say more complex words through the use of syllable clapping. Children will learn about alliteration and be encouraged to recognise words with the same initial sounds such as monkey, man, mummy. Children will be exposed to a range of new stories and adults will engage them in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary. Children **at the appropriate level of development** will be encouraged to make marks and ascribe meanings to them and they will begin to learn how to write some of the letters from their names.

Personal, social and Emotional:

Social focus- understanding others

Key themes: School value- Curiosity
Positive and negative behaviour
Valuing the contribution of others and Resolving issues
Celebration- Chinese New Year

This half term children will be learning how to understand others around them. The use of story books is a springboard to this and children will be given problems like 'should the fox have eaten the Gingerbread man? 'Why did Goldilocks eat the porridge?' Children will hopefully be increasing in confidence this half term and should become more outgoing with unfamiliar people. The Nursery rules and routines should be followed by all children and adults will encourage children to support each other in doing so. Children will be learning how to solve conflicts and find resolutions with friends with decreasing levels of adult support.

Key events and experiences

Chinese New Year celebration
Building the 3 pigs houses
Visit from a builder
The visiting troll/big bad wolf making bad choices

Parental engagement

Story telling session
Healthy eating workshop- fairy-tale cooking

Maths:

Through real-life experiences and play-based approaches children will be exposed to numbers 0-5 and will learn how to recognise and use these numbers. Adults will work with children to explore and compare two small groups of up to five objects, modelling when there are the same number of objects in each group, e.g. You've got two, I've got two. Same!

Physical Development:

Gross motor development will continue to be the main focus this half term. Children will be encouraged to explore large scale movements using lots of muscles to do activities such as wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks, build, climb and make dens.

Adults will work with children to present fun and engaging fine motor experiences and children will learn how to use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils.

Expressive Art and Design:

This topic absolutely lends itself to creativity and imaginative thinking. Adults will model retelling stories using props, small world equipment and puppets. Children will learn how to use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises and adults will model how to draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. Adults will support the exploration of the emotions and feelings of story book characters and show children how these can be expressed through artwork, drawing and paintings. Children will continue to be exposed to songs and singing and will add to their repertoire of know songs.

Understanding the World:

This topic is weighted more within a scientific area of focus and children will be exposed to various problems that they have to solve. Can you really build a house out of straw? How can you make a strong bridge for the Billy Goats? Children will be supported to explore and talk about the differences between materials and the changes that they notice. Adults will use enquiry-based questioning to pose new ideas to the children and encourage them to reflect on their past experiences, recounting these. Children will compare and contrast story book characters and alongside this, will be encouraged to think about their own similarities and differences.