

Communication and Language

There will be a continued emphasis on listening to stories and sharing both fiction and non-fiction books.

The children will be encouraged to ask lots of relevant questions to support their understanding and extend their vocabulary. We will continue to segment words into their sounds in order to have a go at writing more words independently.

Physical Development

Outdoor PE will take place on a Tuesday morning and Indoor PE will take place on a Friday Morning, weather permitting.

This half term, we will develop our gross motor skills using various large outdoor equipment and develop our agility by taking part in obstacle courses. We will also learn a range of dances, following the music and rhythm appropriately.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Our Hampton Dene Discoverers focus for this term is 'Resilience and Adaptability'.

The children will develop their friendships through playing together, taking turns and sharing. We will continue discussing emotions; the children will be encouraged to respect the feelings of other children and adults.

English

The children will write a short recount of Christmas Day and set individual New Year's resolutions.

We will read 'Harry and The Bucketful of Dinosaurs' and create a lost poster for our favourite possession. We will write a book review of the story and use our imaginations to write a new adventure. We will also focus our learning around the story 'Tyrannosaurus Drip' and create dinosaur fact files.

Each child will be encouraged to use their sound knowledge as they read and write, as well as learning high frequency words.

Ladybirds – Spring 2026

Our topic in Ladybird Class this half term is 'Dinosaurs' as voted for by the class.

The children's interests will continually be used to inform the direction which our topic takes.



Maths

Number formation of 0 – 9 will be a continual target for the children this term.

We will develop our understanding of zero and compare numbers to 5, exploring the composition of each amount. We will test the mass and capacity of different containers using the terms heavier, lighter, more/less than. We will explore making pairs and comparing 2 groups, as well as focusing on 6, 7, 8 in detail.

Understanding the World

We will talk about how dinosaurs lived long ago and find out how we know they existed. We are looking forward to digging for dinosaur fossils and bones! We will explore what dinosaurs ate, different dinosaur sounds and label various parts of a dinosaur.

How you can help

Talk to your child about our topic of 'Dinosaurs'. Please continue to read with your child at home and practise their keywords on a regular basis. Ask questions about the story to develop their understanding. Encourage your child to form letters correctly and sound out words independently. Practise counting forwards and backwards, and recognising numerals from 0 – 10.

Thank you!

Expressive Arts and Design

We will create individual dinosaurs using collage materials, handprints in paint and shadows.

We will also make dinosaur masks, bake tasty dinosaur biscuits and create salt dough fossils.