

Growing and Changing

The Bee and Me

Term 4



Term 4 Overview

This term, our learning will revolve around the season of Spring, inspired by the book *The Bee and Me* written by Alison Jay. We will explore how both people and nature change and grow, gaining a deeper understanding of the different stages of life.

Alongside this, we will celebrate Mother's Day, meet the Fire Service to learn about their important role in our community, and get hands-on in the kitchen by making our own honey sandwiches for our 'Bee Café'! We will also focus on the importance of keeping healthy, including learning about dental hygiene and how to take care of our teeth.

A highlight of our term will be a visit to Warriner Farm, where the Reception class will meet farmyard animals and learn about the essential preparations for the growing season, including how crops and animals are cared for.

We will end the term by taking a walk to Bodicote Church to learn about the Easter story. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore the significance of Easter, its history, and the values it represents. Visiting the church will provide a meaningful way to connect with the spiritual aspect of the season and encourage reflection on new life.



Term 4 Learning

Personal Social & Emotional Development

During this term, we will be sharing our likes and dislikes with one another, helping children express what makes them happy and understand the steps they can take to achieve this. We will also focus on building perseverance and resilience, encouraging children to face challenges with confidence and determination. Through this, they will continue to develop their independence, following the principles of the Grange Way to guide their actions and decisions.

Communication and Language

We will continue to use show & tell and circle times to understand the importance of listening and respecting each other's ideas. We will focus on listening to and discussing non-fiction texts, which will help us become more familiar with new knowledge and vocabulary. As we explore these texts, we will ask questions to deepen our understanding and engage in meaningful conversations. Additionally, we will work on becoming more independent in discussing problems and organising activities with our friends, developing our teamwork and communication skills along the way.

Physical Development

We will be getting active with exciting ways to move using our feet, exploring skills such as kicking, dribbling, and controlling a ball. Additionally, we will continue developing our gymnastics skills, focusing on movement at different levels—high, low, under, and over—while building strength, balance, and coordination. Our PE days are Monday and Thursdays.





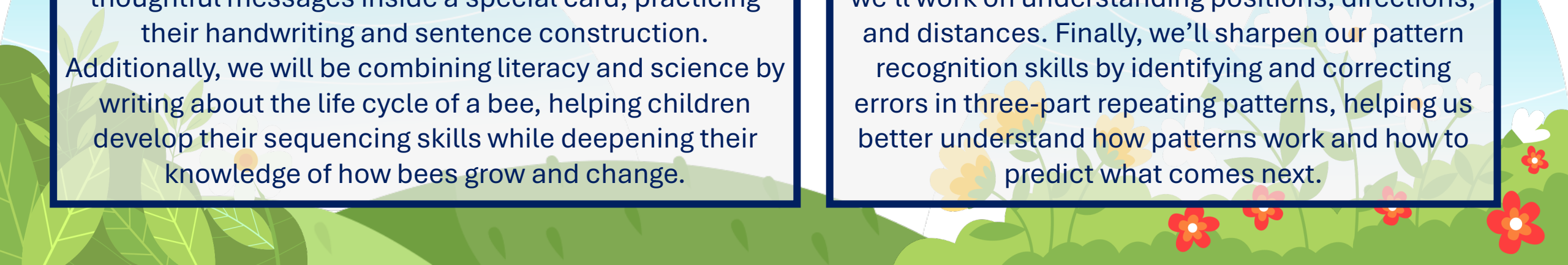
Literacy

Next term in literacy, we will be immersing ourselves in the story *The Bee and Me*, using it as inspiration for a range of engaging writing activities. The children will learn how to write a clear set of instructions on how to make honey sandwiches, focusing on the use of time conjunctions, verbs, and adverbs to structure their steps effectively. They will also be introduced to key scientific vocabulary, which will support their understanding of the natural world while enhancing their writing skills. As part of our storytelling exploration, we will discuss different story settings and learn how to use exclamation marks to add excitement and emphasis to our writing. To celebrate Mother's Day, the children will design and write thoughtful messages inside a special card, practicing their handwriting and sentence construction. Additionally, we will be combining literacy and science by writing about the life cycle of a bee, helping children develop their sequencing skills while deepening their knowledge of how bees grow and change.



Maths

We will continue to strengthen our mathematical skills by developing our ability to subitise numbers, which will help us instantly recognise quantities without counting. We'll also focus on recalling number bonds up to 10, building fluency and confidence with basic addition and subtraction. Our measurement skills will grow as we explore how to measure length, time, and height, using appropriate tools and language to describe and compare different objects. In addition, we will dive into the world of 3D shapes, learning their properties and how to identify them in everyday objects. As we enhance our spatial awareness, we'll work on understanding positions, directions, and distances. Finally, we'll sharpen our pattern recognition skills by identifying and correcting errors in three-part repeating patterns, helping us better understand how patterns work and how to predict what comes next.





Expressive Arts and Design

We are excited to create drawings inspired by our observations, exploring the beautiful colours found in nature. Through mixing paints, we will discover new shades and patterns, deepening our appreciation of the world around us. Additionally, we will be designing a bee-friendly garden, focusing on textures, colours, and shapes to create a welcoming space for pollinators. As part of our artistic exploration, we will also study Van Gogh's famous Sunflowers painting, using it as inspiration for our own creative work.

Forest School

Forest School will take place on Wednesdays next term and will focus on activities inspired by The Bee and Me. Children will explore nature through hands-on experiences. Please ensure they have wetsuits and boots in school.

Understanding of the World

This term, we will focus on sharing our likes and dislikes, helping children clearly express what makes them happy and understand how to work towards these feelings. We will also encourage perseverance and resilience, supporting children in developing the confidence to tackle challenges independently. Throughout the term, they will continue to build these skills, guided by the values of the Grange Way. In addition to this, we will explore the season of Spring, focusing on the changes that occur in nature, including the life cycles of plants and animals. The children will learn about different stages of life, including those of insects and farmyard animals. A highlight of the term will be our visit to Warriner Farm, where we hope to see baby lambs and other young animals, further enhancing our understanding of life cycles and the wonders of springtime.



Gardening School

Next term, we are excited to start a new learning focus called Gardening School! At The Grange, we are fortunate to have a beautiful outdoor garden, and we are ready to bring it to life with some much-needed care and attention. The Reception team will have the opportunity to transform this space, working together to make it flourish. There will be lots of fun and practical jobs for the children to do, including planting flowers and vegetables, digging new garden beds, watering the plants, weeding, creating bug hotels, and designing beautiful garden features like a bee-friendly area. The children will also help tidy up the space, create compost, and build a mini greenhouse. As we work in the garden, we will continue exploring our focused text, *The Bee and Me*, linking our gardening activities to the important lessons about nature, growth, and the environment found in the story. To ensure everyone stays warm and clean while working outdoors, we kindly ask that all children have the appropriate clothing for gardening activities. This will include wellies for muddy conditions and wet suits to keep them comfortable and dry while they dig, plant, and explore. We can't wait to see how the children's hard work will help bring the garden to life!

Additional Information

Reading

It is expected that children read regularly at home to continue making progress and to consolidate phonics sounds. Reading books more than once will help your child build comprehension skills needed such as re telling the story in order and making accurate predictions. Please record your child's reading in the reading journal and make use of the class library on a **Wednesday**. Additionally, we will be keeping the reading journals in school every **Wednesday**, so that we can keep track with all the amazing reading being done.

PE Days

PE will continue to be on a Monday and Thursday. Please can P.E kits be in at the start of the week, with them returning on Thursday, ready to be washed..

Key Dates

24th Feb – Term starts

3rd March – Bee Café and share a book

4th March - Fire Service visit

6th March - World Book day

31st March - Church Visit

1st April - Dogs Trust talk

Warriner Farm trip TBC

4th April - Break up

Useful Links

Oxford Owl

Oxford Owl is a fabulous resource for many subject areas and offers a very good reading range with many free resources.

Please follow this link: https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/user/sign_up.html which will allow you to create a home login with Oxford Owl. Once you have joined up and signed in, please follow this link: [Free eBook library | Oxford Owl from Oxford University Press](#) This will take you to the eBooks suitable for sharing at home.

Phonics play

A site packed with interactive phonics games which is great for child development within phonics

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

Starfall – Early Learning Activities

Starfall

Starfall is a fantastic resource for early literacy and phonics, offering interactive games, songs, and activities that support reading and writing skills.

RWI

Watch the following link to improve your phonics knowledge to ensure you are saying the sounds correctly

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

Top Marks

Play these fun Maths Games for 3-5 year olds
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years/counting>