



# Plaza Gwanwyn - Nursery

## This half term our topic is Marvellous Me

The first few weeks of Nursery will be supporting the children as they settle into Nursery getting to know them as they make new friends. We will support as they learn the routines and expectations through a variety of learning opportunities both inside the plaza and outside in our beautiful new outdoor learning environment. Our Curriculum focusses on the needs of the developing child through five developmental pathways - Belonging, Communication, Exploration, Physical Development and Well Being.

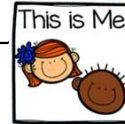
### Belonging

The children will be learning to recognise who they are and those who are important to them. The children will be encouraged to participate in the life of Nursery, developing their independence while also understanding and following rules and boundaries. The children will learn to take care each other and also the things in their environment.



### Communication

Communication is fundamental to children's development. We will be supporting the children to understand and to be able to make themselves understood. Communication involves developing listening, attention and understanding, alongside vocabulary and speaking skills. The children will learn to express their thoughts and feelings and to take notice of others. They will take on roles in play, sharing stories and retelling events. The children will be encouraged to join in with familiar stories and rhymes. The children will use mark making tools with increasing control applying meaning to their marks. We will be using language in a fun and playful way with purpose. The children will have the opportunity to engage in different types of reading materials including using the I pads.



### Well Being

Feeling connected, secure and safe are key elements to developing a strong sense of well being. The children will be learning to interact with each other, take turn and share their likes and dislikes. They will learn to recognise their feelings and also the feelings of others. They will recognise that their actions may have consequences on others. The children will be learning to develop their independence especially in their personal hygiene.

### Welsh Language Patterns

Bore Da - Good Morning  
Prynhawn Da - Good Afternoon  
Diolch - Thank you  
Pwy wyt ti? Who are you?  
..... ydw i. I am .....



### Physical Development

Children have a natural need to move, be moved and to move or manipulate objects. Repetition and variety are critical to their development. Physical development has multiple benefits for young children. Movement is linked to learning, physical activities which can enhance a child's sense of belonging and well being. It can support greater concentration, motivation, memory as well as support healthy bone and muscle development. At Dewstow, the outside environment is offered to the children throughout the day - even in the rain. They will learn to move safely and co-ordinate their movements. They have the opportunity to move on a variety of surfaces testing out their capabilities.



### Extra Information

Our whole school approach to behaviour is encouraging the children to be **Ready, Respectful and Safe**. The children will be rewarded for being Ready, Respectful and Safe through verbal praise, stickers and Head Teacher Awards. We will be PE every **Friday** in the hall where the children will be encouraged to take off their own shoes and socks. Any practice that you can do to support us with this will be greatly appreciated. We will be getting suited and booted and heading into Forest School each **Monday**. Please can you ensure that your child has a pair of wellies in school for their outdoor play.

### Exploration

Children's natural curiosity about the world around them is a strong motivator. The children will explore and investigate themselves and will be encouraged to share their new knowledge and skills and learn from each other. The children will develop these skills both inside and outside the Nursery making use of the changes in seasons and our school environment. They will be encouraged to use technology and mark making to communicate their ideas. The children will play with quantities and numbers and use mathematical language in their play. We will be noticing similarities and differences in people, places and things throughout this topic.





# Information



At Dewstow our curriculum has been developed to support our children at the very beginning of their learning continuum. This curriculum recognises that every child is unique and values the Welsh language as an integral part of the unique culture of Wales. Play is a fundamental right for all children. It is through play and playful experiences that children find ways to explore a range of emotions and learn about the world around them. Here at Dewstow we will provide authentic and engaging experiences where children are encouraged to investigate, explore, create and be active, both inside the plaza and outside in our garden whatever the weather.

To help us to do this can you ensure that your child has a pair of wellies in school, all clothes labelled and a spare change of clothes in school each day. Our free flow snack time forms an important part of our day and teaching. We ask for a donation of fruit each week to support this. Below are some activities that you can do with your child to support our topic. We would love to see photos uploaded to your child's profile on Seesaw. This is by no means an exhaustive list and we would love to see other family activities too.

<p><b>Can you make an obstacle course?</b> Can you make an obstacle course in your house or garden. Can you make areas where you have to balance, jump and run? What else can you add? When you have completed it a few times, can you feel your heart beating fast? Are you hot? Why is this?</p>	<p><b>Can you read a story about toys?</b> Find your favourite cuddly toy and snuggle down to read a story about toys. What happens in the story? Did you enjoy it? How might the story end?</p>	<p><b>Have you changed since you were a baby?</b> Look at photos of you when you were a baby. Talk to a grown up about how you have changed since you were a baby? What things can you do now that you couldn't do then? How has your body changed?</p>
<p><b>Can you make faces?</b> How do people's faces look when they are happy? Sad? Angry? Excited? Use the cards on the next page and think about how those people are feeling. What might make them feel like this? Have you felt like this? Why? Can you draw your own faces to show different emotions?</p>	<p><b>Can you measure your height?</b> Work with a grown up and use a tape measure to find out how tall you are. Can you mark it on a wall and see how you grow over the next few months? Is everyone in your house the same height as you? Are they taller or shorter? Do you recognise any numbers on the tape measure?</p>	<p><b>Can you put your coat on yourself?</b> How quick can you put your coat on. Remember our trick for putting on your coat. - dip and flip <small>Tutorial: Teach Your Toddler or Preschooler to Put on their Own Jacket! - YouTube</small></p>
<p><b>Can you brush your teeth?</b> Why is it important that we brush our teeth? Can you find some foods in your kitchen that are good for your teeth? (e.g. milk/cheese) Can you find foods that might be bad for your teeth? (e.g. sweets). Can you set a timer for 2 minutes and brush your teeth? Can you show some one else how to brush their teeth?</p>	<p><b>Can you perform "Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes"?</b> Practise singing Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes with the actions. Now sing it again, doing all the actions but missing out some of the body part words. Can you remember not to say them! Can you perform it to an audience?</p>	<p><b>Can you find signs of Autumn?</b> How many different coloured leaves can you find? Can you find any conkers? Acorns? What is happening to the weather?</p>

<p><b>Can you draw a self portrait?</b> Can you look in the mirror and see what features you have on your face? Can you draw them? What colours do you need to use?</p>	<p><b>Can you talk about your family?</b> Who is in your family? Can you talk to a grown up about your family? Do you have any siblings? Do you have any grandparents? Can you draw a picture of your family? Can you label it?</p>	<p><b>Can you find out about pets?</b> Do you have a pet? If not, what pet would you like? Can you find out some facts about that kind of animal? Can you use the internet? Could you use a book?</p>
<p><b>Can you listen carefully?</b> Go for a walk. What sounds can your hear? What is making those sounds? Can you describe the sounds? Which sounds are quiet? Which sounds are loud?</p>	<p><b>Can you count your body parts?</b> What parts of your body can you name? How many of each thing do you have? How many fingers do you have? How many toes? How many eyes? How many teeth? Can you count them?</p>	<p><b>Can you make a healthy snack?</b> Can you find out which snacks are healthy? Is fruit healthy? Is chocolate healthy? Can you make a healthy snack? Can you use tools (e.g. a knife for cutting or spreading)? Can you wash your hands before you start?</p>
<p><b>Can you clap name syllables?</b> Can you clap the syllables in your name? E.g. Ben (1 syllable= 1 clap), Abdul (2 syllables = 2 claps) etc. Can you clap the syllables in your friend's names? What sounds do the names begin with?</p>	<p><b>Can you make a picture using autumn objects?</b> Using conker, sticks, leaves or cones can you make a un autumn collage?</p>	<p><b>Can you play "Simon says"?</b> A grown up will start giving the instructions. If they say "Simon says..." before giving an instruction you must do it e.g. "Simon says pat your head." If they don't say "Simon Says" and just give the instruction you don't do it! Can you swap roles?</p>



Find somewhere quiet away from noise, TV and mobile phones.



Cuddle up together and enjoy stories and rhymes.

Make animal noises or sound effects to help bring the story to life and make you all laugh.

Look at the pictures and start talking about them. Can you find a dinosaur/ rabbit. What else can you see? How many bananas are there? What games are the children playing?

Talking to your child will help them learn more words.



### Helping your child with Reading Nursery

Sharing a book with a child is fun – it's a time for closeness, laughing and talking together. Reading with your child can help them develop, strengthen your bond and get them ready for school.

Spending 10 minutes a day reading to your child helped them develop social and emotional skills and become confident happy learners.



It's ok to read the same story over and over again because familiar books are comforting and build confidence.

Play games when out and about together. What letters, number or words can they see on shops, posters and signs?  
eg Asda, McDonalds, STOP



Try asking your child to tell the story. Can they 'read' the pictures to you and talk about what is happening on each page.

Visit Caldicot Library where you can borrow books for free.