



# BROOKFIELD SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## Catkin Class Summer Term Curriculum Letter

Nursery have made a great start to the Summer term, settling back into their activities with enthusiasm. We enjoyed welcoming three new children from Blossom Class, Beau, Conor and Zahra, who have enjoyed reuniting with their friends. Our theme for the first half term is *Sustainability* and for the second half term it will be *Journeys*. Much of our learning and discussion in the classroom will link to these themes, though in the Early Years we also follow the children's interests and questions when developing our learning plans. On the back of this letter we have outlined some of the learning that will be happening this term.

The older children who are due to start Reception in September will be attending Forest School sessions at Mortimer Terrace Nature Reserve this term. These will be led by Daisy, Charlotte and Rob, our new Forest School Gardener, and will take place on Wednesday afternoons. Small groups of children will each benefit from 3 afternoon sessions.

If you have any questions or need to arrange to speak with one of us, please use the [nursery@brookfield.camden.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@brookfield.camden.sch.uk) email to arrange this.

Best wishes,  
Charlotte, Daisy, Adrienne, Jamal, Jo, Maya and Mila

### Key dates for your diary:

**Fri 6<sup>th</sup> May:** Head and Chair of Governors Coffee Morning  
**Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> May:** Trip to Kentish Town City Farm (TBC)  
**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May:** INSET day – school closed to pupils  
**Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> May:** Mental Health Coffee Morning  
**w/c 30<sup>th</sup> May:** Half Term break

**Tues 21<sup>st</sup> June:** Class photographs

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> June:** Maths Day

**Sat 9<sup>th</sup> July:** Summer Fair

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July:** Trip to Waterlow Park

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> July:** Last Day of Summer Term and Nursery Forest School Day on Hampstead Heath

## Themes: Sustainability and Journeys



### Our value of the term is achievement

We will be supporting the children to recognise and celebrate the skills that they have achieved. We will also be setting ourselves challenges for things that we can't do yet – and thinking about the learning behaviours that will help us to achieve those such as practise, keeping on trying and getting help from others.

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** We will be working on making the children more aware of others and respecting each other's likes and dislikes as well as being kind to each other and working as a team on particular tasks. As we move closer to the transition to Reception, we will be talking about feelings and naming emotions and will aim to address any worries or concerns they may have about moving on. We will also be encouraging independence in self-care tasks and looking after our belongings as well as working on our turn taking, sharing and patience. During this half term we will be talking about people who help us, with an exciting visit from the refuse collectors!

**Communication and Language** We will be working on our listening skills, with the children taking on the role of talk detectives, looking for particular skills like eye contact and taking turns to speak. We will continue to find opportunities for individual children to take part in show and tell, building up their confidence in speaking in front of a group and explaining their work. We will continue to have additional story times in smaller groups, to give more opportunities for talk and discussion. The children will dictate their stories and we will encourage them to increase their vocabulary by introducing new words that are relevant to each week's learning.

**Physical Development-** We will continue to work on a variety of activities to strengthen and improve our fine motor skills including threading, cutting and manipulating malleable materials. We will also be using simple tools to hammer, saw, roll and grate in cooking and woodwork play. On a larger scale, we will be continuing to use the astroturf pitch for a chance to really get our hearts racing and experiment with different ways of moving. We will begin to introduce some simple team races in time for our own mini sports day!

**Literacy** We will be enjoying lots of stories about growth and change, for example *The Hungry Caterpillar* and *Jasper's Beanstalk* and will immerse ourselves in stories about magical and everyday journeys next term. The children will be creating their own versions of *The Little Red Hen* and *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* as well as making class books about our trips. We will be publishing a collection of our own stories and using our emergent writing skills for a purpose every day e.g. writing labels for our models and recipes in our play. We will be focusing on developing each child's pencil grip and supporting them to write their names.

**Mathematics** We will be working with children on the skill of subitising – being able to 'see' small amounts without counting, and exploring how larger amounts are made up of smaller amounts, to really develop our number sense. There will be lots of opportunities to problem solve and use mathematical skills for a purpose, for example when counting out seeds, measuring the growth of plants, recording how long it takes for the caterpillars to turn into butterflies etc. We will also be thinking about repeating pattern and shape and will discuss symmetry in nature.

**Understanding the World** We will be planting lots of flowers and vegetables in our garden and watching tadpoles and caterpillars grow and change in the classroom. Building on our trip to the City Farm we will be thinking about some of the things that farms provide. We will be exploring waste and recycling, including a visit from the bin lorry, and making our own paper. Through weekly cooking activities we will be investigating the different parts of plants and experiencing change. Next term we will focus on vehicles, how to make things move and the features of our local neighbourhood.

**Expressive Art and Design** A wide variety of creative art activities are planned from paint mixing to printing, using a range of media. We have already started using coloured inks this week and have been exploring repeating patterns and symmetry. We are going to try flour batik painting and felt making as well as using clay and collage. There will be a chance to have a go at some simple woodwork and close observational drawing. Role play and dancing are always popular with this class so we will be acting out our stories and trying to retell some traditional ones too. We will continue to have our weekly music sessions with Julia and explore a variety of instruments to make sound effects for our stories.