Topics covered in Starfish Nursery

In Starfish Nursery the teaching and learning is thematic and planned through topics. The topics covered in Starfish Nursery at different times of the year can be seen below. As well as these topics children in Starfish Nursery will also learn about other special events such as Easter, Christmas, Harvest Festival, Eid, Chinese New Year and much, much more.

Autumn Term 1— Why do you love me so much?
Guess how much I love you. What is special about me? How do we show that we care? In this project, children learn about love, families and how people are the same and different.

Autumn Term 2— Why do leaves go crispy?
Crunch, scrunch and rustle. Why do leaves go crispy? What’s inside a conker? We find out all about autumn in this exciting seasonal project. This half term, we’ll visit a woodland to hunt for autumnal treasures.

Autumn Term 2— Is it Shiny?
This half term, we’ll hunt for missing treasure and discuss whether the treasure we find is shiny or not. We’ll watch how shiny objects catch the Sun when we hang them outside, and we’ll group and sort different objects. From what are they made? For what are they used?

Spring 1— Why can’t I have chocolate for breakfast?
We’ll find out why we can’t eat chocolate for every meal, which foods are healthy and more in this project about food, mealtimes and nutrition.

Spring Term 2— Are eggs alive?
This half term, we’ll head outside for a spring walk to see and explore a range of plants and animals. We’ll collect some frogspawn to take back to school for observation. Do frogs really develop out of this strange jelly?

Summer 1— Do dragons exist?
Do dragons exist? What’s it like to live in a castle? It’s time to explore the fantastical world of dragons and castles.

Summer 2— How does that building stay up?
This half term, we’ll handle different building materials, and we’ll build structures out of wet sand, construction kits and blocks. Who can build the tallest tower?
Outstanding School and Nursery

“Holland House is an outstanding school. A significant success of the school is its outstanding partnerships, both with parents and a wide range of outside agencies to support pupils’ learning. Parents are extremely supportive of the school and value all that it offers their children.”

Ofsted 2010

Admission arrangements for a Starfish Nursery place

Parents will initially need to complete an application form for Nursery in the April of the year children are due to start in September, places will be offered in line with Birmingham Local Authority (LA) policy. The criteria are as follows;

1. A child who has been in nursery as a ‘rising 3’
2. Looked after child or a child with a Special Educational Need
3. A sibling at either Holland House or Town Junior School who will still be in attendance at the time the sibling enters the nursery.
4. Distance in a straight line from school.

Rising 3s Places in Starfish Nursery

In the event that we have spaces in Nursery in January, we may offer a place in Starfish Nursery to children who have turned 3 in the preceding Autumn Term. This will be at the discretion of the Head Teacher.

All children are eligible for 15 hours Government funding for a nursery place. In Starfish Nursery these places can be requested as five morning sessions, five afternoon sessions or two full days and a half day each week, either taken at the beginning or end of the week. Some parents may be eligible for 30 hours Government funding, please ask for further details.

Children staying for a full day can bring either a lunchbox or have a school meal from our onsite kitchen.

Wrap Around Care

If you require additional wraparound care we can also offer this onsite. Our wrap around care can be facilitated in a separate building onsite from 7.45am — 6pm. Please contact the school office if you wish to discuss details, availability, fees and bookings.

Starfish Nursery Session Times

Morning session 8.45 am – 11.45 am
Afternoon session 12.00 pm - 3.00 pm
2 ½ Days— Monday, Tuesday 8.45 am - 3.00 pm and Wednesday 8.45 am - 11.45 am
2 ½ Days— Wednesday 12 noon - 3.00 pm, Thursday & Friday 8.45 am - 3.00 pm
30 hours funded places 8.45 am — 3.00 pm Monday to Friday.

Teaching and Learning in Starfish Nursery

The teaching and learning in Starfish Nursery is planned and delivered by a fully qualified teacher and children are also supported in their learning by a fully qualified teaching assistant.

At Holland House our curriculum is based on excellence and enjoyment and is carefully planned to offer challenges which extend children’s learning and excite their imagination. All staff work hard to provide a friendly, safe and supportive environment in which all children can achieve.

Teaching and Learning opportunities are provided across seven curriculum areas: Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, Physical Development, Literacy and Numeracy, Expressive Arts and Design, and Understanding of the World.

Through carefully planned work and structured play activities both inside and outside the classroom, the children are introduced to a balance of challenging tasks designed to develop imagination, curiosity, problem solving, ways of communicating and social competence through a variety of topics which they find absorbing and fun.