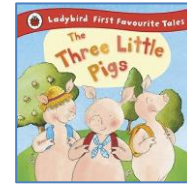




Little Wrens Autumn Newsletter 2026

Thursday 4th September 2026



Dear children and families,

Welcome back, and a very warm welcome to our new starters! I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and are feeling just as excited as I am to begin a brand-new school year. I feel truly privileged to be part of your early learning journey, and I just know we're going to have plenty of fun, laughter, and giggles along the way.

In our first few weeks, we'll spend time getting to know each other and settling into our class rhythms and routines. We'll begin with the story *The Colour Monster* by Anna Llenas, using it to explore our emotions, feelings and how we can recognise and talk about them. We'll then turn our attention to ourselves, our homes and our families through the much-loved traditional tale *The Three Little Pigs*. This story will open up lots of lovely opportunities to talk about where we live, the different types of homes we have and the people (and maybe pets!) who make our homes special.

Once we're settled, we'll jump into our learning. Our whole-school theme this term is "Our Roots", giving us lots of opportunities to explore the world around us and think about where we come from and what makes us special. We'll also be keeping a close eye on the changing outdoor environment as we welcome the season of autumn. Using all of our senses, we'll explore the sights, sounds, smells, textures and tastes of this beautiful season - feeling crunchy leaves under our feet, listening to the sounds of nature, noticing the changing colours around us, smelling the earthy scents of autumn and exploring some of the fruits and foods that the season brings. Through nature walks, collecting treasures and lots of hands-on exploring, we'll discover how our world changes as autumn arrives.

As we move into the second part of the term, our learning will turn towards celebrations and special occasions. We'll start by talking about birthdays and the special ways we celebrate with our families and friends. We'll then explore a variety of festivals and celebrations, including Harvest, Diwali and Christmas. Through stories, songs, music, creative activities, role play and lots of hands-on experiences, we'll learn about some of the different traditions and ways people celebrate, while sharing our own experiences too. There will be lots of opportunities to talk, wonder, create and, of course, have lots of fun along the way!

Throughout the term, a mix of fiction and non-fiction books will spark our curiosity, deepen our knowledge, and inspire our activities. Please do look at our **termly holistic overview** so you can see all of the learning that is planned for this term.

Our Learning and Development

The provision for child development and learning in Little Wrens follows the **Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS)**. We use the stepping stones leading to the Early Learning Goals and provide a wide range of play activities that help children progress in each area of learning.

Play helps young children to learn and develop through doing and talking — research shows it's one of the most powerful ways children think and make sense of the world. Sometimes children choose how to use an activity; at other times, an adult will lead the activity to guide learning.

The EYFS Framework is made up of **7 areas of learning and development**, with **3 prime areas** forming the foundation:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development

These prime areas support healthy development and future learning. As children grow, they develop skills in the **4 specific areas**: literacy, mathematics, understanding the world, and expressive arts and design.

Learning Journey & Home Learning

Children are continuously observed by the EYFS team as they play, explore and learn, helping us to understand their development, interests and individual learning styles. Throughout the year, we will capture special moments, achievements and examples of their learning in their personal Learning Journey. Each child has their own special book, which will be filled with their work, creations and memories from their time in Little Wrens. It will be lovely to look back through their book throughout the year and see how much they have grown, developed and learned.

We'll also be offering optional home learning activities throughout the year, linked to the learning taking place in class. These might be simple ideas, activities or things to look out for and talk about at home. These will be shared on Seesaw. Seesaw is our online learning platform, which provides a simple way for families to share their child's learning and special moments from home with us. Login details and further information will be sent out soon. Staff may also occasionally share photos or updates from Little Wrens, but Seesaw is primarily there for you to share those special moments from home. There is absolutely no pressure to take part — it's simply another way for us to celebrate your child's learning and experiences together.

Reading/Reading Badges

Sharing and listening to stories is a vital part of a child's development and something we are very passionate about in the early years and at Wrenbury School. We have a fantastic reading area in our classroom full of wonderful books of all types: picture books, poetry books, fiction and non-fiction. Stories will be shared with your child every day. As your child settles into nursery life, they will have the opportunity to choose books each week to share at home. We call these our 'love to read' books. 'Love to read' books are books that your child has selected to share at home with you. I would encourage you to read and re-read these books across the week to deepen your child's understanding of the story. We are very fortunate to be able to access a range of books from our library service. If there are any

particular stories that you would like to read at home, please do let me know and I will send for your book. To support a love of reading, children have the opportunity to gain reading badges. This term your child will be able to obtain their bronze reading badge. In order to achieve this, we ask that your **child's reading diary is signed each week.**

Also, did you know that rhymes and songs play a vital part in your early reading journey? Research suggests that if a child can recite eight nursery rhymes by the time they are 4, they are usually amongst the best readers. Therefore, you've guessed it, we will be singing each day too – I love to sing!

Mystery Reader

To support our love of reading, we'd love to invite family members to become **Mystery Readers** in Little Wrens! As a Mystery Reader, you'll come into nursery to share a favourite story with the children — but shhh... it's a surprise until you walk through the door! If you'd like to take part, please book a slot via the school office. We ideally welcome Mystery Readers at **3:00pm**, and we can't wait to discover who will be surprising us next!

Phonics

As we settle into our rhythms and routines, we will begin our daily phonics sessions. Phonics is a way of teaching children to read and write. At Wrenbury, we follow the Little Wandle Foundation for Phonics, focusing on Phase 1 phonics. This supports the importance of speaking and listening and develops children's discrimination of sounds, including letter sounds.

Little Wrens Timetable

An example of our timetable is below, please be aware that some of the times do change during the day to allow for longer/ shorter lessons and assemblies as required.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:40 -9:00	Meet and Greet/Morning Activities				
9:00 – 9:20	Adult led input	Adult led input	Adult led input	Adult led input	Adult led input
9:20-11:20	Continuous Provision				
10:00-10:30	Rolling snack				
11:20-11:30	Tidy Up Time				
11:30-11:40	Phonics and Dough Disco	Phonics and Dough Disco	Phonics and Dough Disco	Phonics and Dough Disco	Phonics and Dough Disco
11:40-11:45	Top 5 story/rhyme time	Top 5 story/rhyme time	Top 5 story/rhyme time	Top 5 story/rhyme time	Top 5 story/rhyme time
11:50 – 1:00	Lunch				
1:00-1:20	Adult led input	Adult led input	Adult led input	Adult led input	Adult led input
1:20 – 2:30	Continuous Provision				
2:30 –2:40	Tidy Up Time				
2:40 –2:50	Concept Cat	Squiggle	Concept Cat	Squiggle	Yoga/Sticky Kids
3:00-3:10	Snack and playtime				
3:10 – 3:20	Top 5 story/rhyme time	Top 5 story/rhyme time	Top 5 story/rhyme time	Top 5 story/rhyme time	Top 5 story/rhyme time
3:20-3:30	Getting ready for home				

Staffing

Little Wrens is led by Mrs Gregory, Nursery Lead, with Mrs Phoenix, our Early Years Teaching Assistant. Miss Ashton also supports us on Monday afternoons, and Mrs Hulme will be supporting us on Wednesdays.

Your child will also meet members of the wider school team during their sessions at Little Wrens. Mrs Evans is our Reception class teacher and Early Years Lead; she works closely with the nursery team.

Lunch and Snacks

Morning snack - you can provide a healthy snack or order a piece of toast via me on the gate each day. Payment to be made via Arbor. Children are offered a piece of fruit during afternoon playtime. Children are encouraged to have a drink milk/water during snack times.

Lunch time – please provide your child with a packed lunch or you can order a school dinner via me on the gate each morning. Payment to be made via Arbor.

We are passionate about helping children develop healthy habits from an early age and believe that healthy bodies and healthy minds help children to learn and thrive. We kindly ask that children bring a healthy snack to school, such as fruit or vegetables, and avoid sending sweets or chocolate.

Please also ensure your child brings a named water bottle, filled with water, each day. Water is the healthiest choice and is also better for children's teeth.

Thank you for your support in helping us encourage healthy choices from the very beginning.

Clothing for all Weathers

We spend time outdoors every day - sometimes for most of the session - so please ensure your child has the right clothing.

Autumn & Winter: A warm waterproof coat, hat, scarf, and gloves (all named) are essential. A pair of wellies that can be kept in Little Wrens would also be very useful, as we love to explore in all weathers. We still go outside in cold, windy, or even snowy conditions - there's so much to discover!

Spring & Summer: A sunhat and sun cream applied before nursery.

Welly Wednesday

We love getting outdoors at Little Wrens, and Welly Wednesday is a special part of our week! Each Wednesday afternoon, we'll head outside to explore our wonderful natural environment, whatever the weather. We'll go on nature walks, hunt for minibests, collect natural treasures, look closely at seasonal changes and enjoy lots of hands-on experiences.

Being outdoors gives children the chance to explore, investigate, take safe risks and develop their confidence while learning about the world around them. We'll be using our senses, asking questions and enjoying lots of opportunities for child-led exploration and discovery.

This year, we are also hoping to work towards achieving our Bronze Tree Award from The Woodland Trust. Through our outdoor adventures, we'll be learning more about trees, nature and how we can care for and look after our wonderful natural world.

EYFS Charity

This year, our class charity will be Nantwich Foodbank. The children will learn about the important work they do to support local families and individuals who may be struggling to afford food and everyday essentials. Throughout the year, we will be looking for opportunities to support the foodbank through donations and fundraising activities, helping the children to understand the importance of kindness, sharing and caring for others in our local community.



Parent Partnership

Website - please view our website: www.wrenburyschool.org.uk, or 'like' us on Facebook to capture a snapshot of our learning in Little Wrens each week.

Emails / texts/Arbor – dates and school communications will be sent via these communication channels.

Seesaw – this will be used to share home learning activities and a snapshot of our learning.

Dates for your Diary

4th September – Tuckshop starts (every Friday after school; bring 50p)

5th October – Open morning

7th October – Flu Nasal Spray

21st October – Harvest Assembly

W/c 19th October – Stay and Play Sessions (9-10am)

23rd October – Last day before half term

2nd November – Inset Day

3rd November – Children return to school

12th November – Open afternoon

16th November – School Photos

10th – 14th November – Anti-bullying week

10th December – Little Wrens Nativity (9.15am)

11th December – Christmas Fair from 5pm

18th December – Break up for Christmas

And finally, please remember that I am here for your child and that, like you, I really do want the very best for them. If you have any concerns or worries at all, please know that my door is always open. I will be on the EYFS garden gate in the morning or at the end of school or you can ring school to chat.

Here is to a super term ahead!

Your teacher,

Mrs Gregory