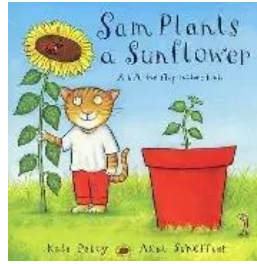


## Nursery News

Week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### Sam plants a sunflower



This week, we have enjoyed sharing the story "Sam Plants a Sunflower." We have discussed the different parts of a sunflower and practised drawing a sunflower on a piece of paper. We sequenced the life cycle of a sunflower and found out what is needed to help plants grow: soil, seeds, water, and sunlight.

The children were amazed at how our beans in a bag are growing. They enjoyed looking closely at how the seed had cracked and the roots were spreading out.



All the Nursery children planted a sunflower seed. We can't wait to watch the seeds grow. We made predictions about how tall they will grow—hopefully taller than us!

Throughout the week, we have enjoyed singing "I'm a Little Sunflower," including simple actions.

### Some indoor activities we have enjoyed this week have included:

- Drawing a portrait of themselves, showing an understanding that writing and drawing are different, as well as making marks on paper.
- Exploring buckets and spades in the sand, scooping the sand using spades and scoops, and exploring how the sand moves.
- Planting flowers in the messy tuff tray, observing their peers, following what they are doing, and exploring a range of interesting materials.

- Creating a sunflower using pre-cut shapes and fastening the paper with glue.
- Painting Vincent van Gogh's famous painting of sunflowers, giving meaning to the marks they make on the paper and painting in random directions.
- Making marks in the yellow sand at the light table, asking questions about what they are observing and commenting on what they can see.
- Exploring the balance scales by weighing different materials and comparing two objects.
- Pouring and filling in the water, observing as they pour the water and filling containers until they overflow.
- Creating a sunflower using yellow playdough, using their hands to apply the necessary pressure as they shape the dough.





**Some outdoor activities the children have explored have included:**

- Practising their climbing and balancing skills on the climbing frame and climbing wall.
- Gardening in the mud kitchen area.
- Finding the first initial of their names in the sand pit.
- Measuring using cubes in the maths tray.
- Pouring and filling in the water tray.





We have also been keeping a close eye on our chrysalises, and we now have one butterfly



Some activities you could share at home could be:

- Sharing a bedtime story
- Counting 1-10
- Recognising numbers 1-10
- Practicing writing their name or first two letters of their name
- Putting own coat on and doing the zip up
- Looking for minibeasts when out and about.

**Some activities you could enjoy together at home include:**

- Sharing a bedtime story together.
- Counting from 1-10.
- Recognising numbers 1-5 and beyond.
- Encouraging your child to write their name or starting by writing the initial letter.
- Getting dressed with increased independence.
- Looking out for minibeasts when you are out and about.

Next week's book of the week will be "Superworm" by Julia Donaldson. We will be exploring lots of activities linked to worms, and we will even be making our own wormery!

