



# Autumn Term 2025

## Early Years Curriculum Newsletter

### Welcome to Early Years at Ickworth Park!

This term in Early Years we will be focusing on getting to know each other, sharing our interests, establishing and embedding some important routines and generally having lots of fun! If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate getting in touch via drop off, pick up or Class Dojo.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Throughout the term we will be supporting the children to make new friendships, sharing and taking turns. Effective communication between peers and navigation of different situations will also be a key focus.

### Phonics

Our phonics programme in Elm class is called Little Wandle. We will communicate with you the sounds we are focusing on each day via a dojo story. When your child is ready they will come home with a reading book. This reading book will be kept for the whole week where they will have three reading lessons in school covering decoding, prosody and comprehension. The skills learnt in these lessons can then be practiced with you at home during your book sharing time. We will only provide your child a reading book when they have comfortably secured specific sounds and we feel they are confident enough to succeed.

### Communication and Language

Our focus this term is to develop active listening and response to questions or conversation in a range of situations. We will also build confidence when speaking to others in small or whole class discussions. Please send any wow moments or celebrated moments from home via the portfolio section on Class Dojo for your child to share with their friends.

### Mathematics

In Maths this term we are going to be focusing on counting accurately, the conservation of number, the skill of subitising, patterns, shape and measure. Your child will partake in focused maths lessons each week covering a different area of maths listed above and be fully immersed in mathematical reasoning, problem solving and number throughout their exploratory play.

### Library visits

Your child will visit the school library once a week on a Monday. They will be able to explore the vast range of books we have and borrow one or two to bring home each week. Please return your book each week enabling your child to swap it.

### Physical Development

This half term we will be focusing on coordinating and controlling gross motor movements as well as developing our fine motor control to securely and safely use classroom equipment such as scissors. P.E days will Tuesdays and Wednesdays, please send your child in their P.E kit on these days. P.E will begin the week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> September.

### Expressive Art and Design

In Art we will be focusing on portraits, exploring the role of outlines to make features and thick and thin brushes for adding detail. We will also be exploring our imaginations by creating shows, stories, songs and entering the world of pretence using the classroom provision. The focus artists this term will be Van Gogh and Kandinsky.

### EFYS Staff

#### Elm Class teachers

Mrs Weller (Mon-Weds)  
Mrs Riley (Thurs & Fri)

#### Student Teacher

Mrs Williams

#### Supported by

Miss Holmes  
Mrs Asker (Wed pm)

**Our School Value for this term**  
**RESPECT**

**Our School Learning habit for this term**  
**CURIOSITY and COLLABORATION**

### Understanding the world

In **R.E** we will discuss how to value things and think about important words including names. We will celebrate Harvest Festival and the meaning behind this. Later in the term we will learn the Christmas story with a special visit to our village church St Leonards.

In **Science** we will carry out Autumn walks getting to know our environment, plant spring bulbs and winter flowers and we will learn about hibernating animals.

In **History** we will learn about significant historical, cultural and religious events including Remembrance Day and Diwali.

In **computing** we will use iPads to capture photographs of our school and classroom environment, practice our drawing skills and use the interactive whiteboard. In our online safety sessions, we will talk about using technology in the home and how to stay safe when doing so.

In **Music** we will be listening and responding to different styles of music. We will learn familiar nursery rhymes with actions and learn Christmas songs later in the term.

### End of day collection

Your child's safety is of paramount importance to us, therefore could we please ask that if anyone else is collecting your child who we may not have seen before or rarely see, send us a dojo message and let us know the name of the person collecting and a password that we can ask for. In addition to this, please can we also reiterate that you must come through the first wooden gate into the 'collection zone' when collecting your child at the end of the day. Please keep a close eye on your child when leaving as the bus turning circle can be extremely dangerous. Thank you for your support with this.

### Diary Dates for Autumn Term 2025

PTA fun run – 20<sup>th</sup> September  
EFYS Phonics coffee morning – 1<sup>st</sup> October  
School individual photos - 7th October  
Informal sharing afternoon 2.15-3pm – 17<sup>th</sup> October  
Parent consultations – 21<sup>st</sup> and 23rd October - 3.30 - 6pm  
PTA Be yourself day – 24th October  
Half term – 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> October  
Children in need - 20th November  
Flu vaccinations - 6th November  
Class trip – 11<sup>th</sup> December  
PTA Elf room - 15th December  
Christmas Crafternoon - 15th December PM  
Christmas dinner - 19th December  
Last Day – 19<sup>th</sup> December