



Dates for your diary this half term at Strong Close



A warm welcome back to all our existing and new children and their families. We hope you've had a relaxing holiday and a Happy New Year to you all.



Monday 15th January 2024 is the deadline for Primary School applications only for children that turn 5 from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025. Please contact our Parental Involvement Coordinator Kaye Hardman if you would like any help completing the online forms.

Parental Consultations for those children who **returned** to nursery in September are week commencing **22nd January**. Look out for your email inviting you to book a time with your child's key person nearer the time.



Forest School sessions delivered by Get Out More will run from **11th January –8th February** in the afternoons for some of the children in the 3-5 year old rooms.

Chinese New Year 2024 falls on **Saturday 10th February**, for the year of the dragon.



Parent Café ! For all parents/ carers look out for more information about times and dates.

Stay and Play sessions for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers will run on **Tuesday** mornings from the **23rd January –6th February 9.30– 11.00am**, look out for

dates and times advertised on the flyers or on our Facebook page. The sessions on the **23rd** and **30th January** will include

Imagination Library Story Telling Sessions for children 0-2 years. Book a place and find out about simple activities to enhance each story at home.



For all bookings above please email office@strongclose.co.uk or call **01535 605272**. Thank you



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Bin the Bottle Exchange Scheme week commencing 22nd January – you can exchange you child's bottle for a cup and tooth brush pack.



Lets Move sessions take place on a Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings with children from **blue** and **yellow** rooms, involving opportunities to develop their gross motor skills and move in time to the music.



We also hold **Sensory Circuit** sessions for the children in **green** and **purple** group, twice a week, where they can explore different ways of moving, linked to their needs and interests.



Watch out for our weekly **What's Happening** email, with ideas about the children's play and interests at nursery and how you support at home. You can also find copies on our Facebook page and website or in the main entrance as a hard copy.

Friday 9th February - School closes for the holidays and re-opens again on **Monday 19th February**.



Why not download the 50 Things to do Before You're 5 app for lots of age appropriate ideas of activities, places to visit and things to do with your child.

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Website <http://www.strongclosenscc.co.uk/>



This Half Term in Red, Purple, Blue, Green & Yellow Rooms

Spring 1 2024



We will also keep you updated through our weekly 'What's Happening' - copies are emailed to all parents/main carers and are available on our [website](http://www.strongclose.co.uk) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/strongclose) pages.

For all bookable activities in **blue overleaf** please email office@strongclose.co.uk or call **01535 605272**. Thank you

Jeśli potrzebujesz tłumaczenia na język polski użyj numeru.

যদি এই অনুবাদ বাংলায় চান তাহলে উপরের সংখ্যায় যোগাযোগ করুন.

اگر آپ اردو میں اس کا ترجمہ کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو اوپر نمبر سے رابطہ کریں

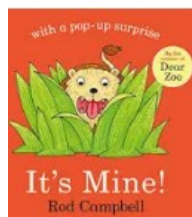
Red and Purple Room – 2-3 year olds

Extending children's interests, knowledge and skills

The children in **red** and **purple** rooms have been interested in the animals; lining them up, arranging and transporting them inside and outside. You may have seen your child showing an interest in carefully placing objects or themselves in patterns or rows, which is a positioning schema. This schema can be seen in children's actions when they line up toys, books or other objects. To find out more about schemas visit :- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDIUA8ZzHUE>



Introducing new knowledge and skills



It's Mine! by Rod Campbell is the core story in **red** and **purple** rooms this half term. It takes place in the jungle where children have to identify which animal is hiding, by looking at their body parts such as a tongue belonging to a tiger or the long neck of a giraffe.

We will be learning the names of the different animals and using descriptive language to define them. We will also be singing songs and rhymes such as 'Walking Through The Jungle' to further develop language.

How you can help support your child's learning

Singing songs and rhymes is an important part of language and child development and can be scheduled into your child's daily routine, particularly at bedtime.



Find out more about singing songs and rhymes <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/why-do-we-sing-nursery-rhymes/zdsyf82>.

THIS HALF-TERM IN NURSERY

Blue, Yellow and Green Rooms—3-5 year olds

Extending children's interests, knowledge and skills



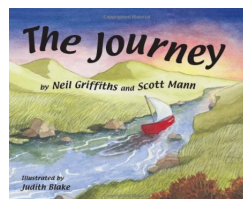
The children in **blue** and **yellow** rooms have been interested in pretending to go on journeys, such as to the park or to Morrison's. We will extend this creativity through construction and role play areas.

We will support this interest by looking at maps of the UK and the world. We will also think about places we might like to visit.

In **green** room, the children have been very busy in the maths area, exploring numbers, counting and lotto games. They have been exploring numbers to 10 and some have been going beyond 10. Next half term, we will be introducing the children to the tens frames and numbers beyond 10.



Introducing new knowledge and skills



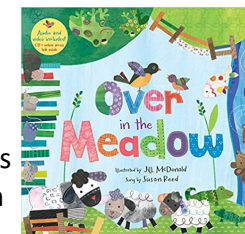
The Journey written by Neil Griffiths and Scott Mann is the core story in **blue** and **yellow** room this half term.

This rhyming story is about a little red boat that a boy loses and goes on a magical journey. We will be developing the children's listening and concentration skills and talking about the rhyme and repetition within the book and encouraging them to recall, the journey the boat goes on. We will introduce the children to different types of climates and talk about appropriate clothing for the weather. We will use maps and non fiction books to look at photographs of different landscapes such as mountains, streams and the sea. We will encourage the children to draw their own maps and extend their vocabulary by using directional words.



Over in the Meadow by Jill McDonald is the core story in **green** room this half term.

Across the meadow, baby animals echo their mothers - and children can listen along and echo too!



As the children read the story they will learn about animals their habitats, actions and sounds. The song goes from 1 to 10 so they will also be exploring numbers and counting.

How you can help support your child's learning

Show your child that maths is in our every day lives by looking for numbers on your way to nursery, such as numerals on car registrations, house numbers, road signs etc. Go to <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/what-can-we-spot-on-the-way/z6s26v4> for other ideas of games to play while walking to nursery.



Why not go on a bus journey with your child, they are full of exciting sights and sounds. You can talk to them about where they want to go,

who they might see. This is a great opportunity for children to practise thinking about the future and using future tenses. Go to <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/take-a-bus-trip/zvcbgwx> for more information.

As we head into winter please remember to dress your child appropriately for the weather, including suitable winter footwear. Go to <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/getting-ready-for-the-day/zdxvy9q> for the benefits of talking through dressing with your child.

