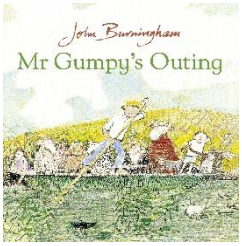


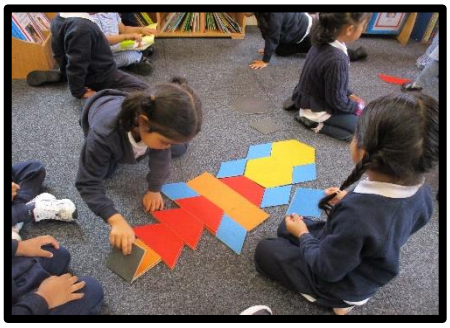
Theme: Journeys **Part 2: Mr Gumpy's Outing**

Week 5-8 (29.06.26 – 23.07.2026)

We will help our friends to learn to:

Communication	Physical	Personal, Social, Emotional
Maintain attention in a range of contexts and can respond appropriately during conversations and activities. Understand questions such as who; why; when; where and how Introduce a storyline or narrative into their play	Choose the right resources to carry out a plan Use a comfortable grip with good control to form some recognisable letters and numbers Run with spatial awareness and negotiates space successfully, adjusting speed or direction to avoid obstacles.	Begin to understand and follow rules during role-play and group activities. Show confidence in joining new experiences and activities. Play with one or more children and develop ideas for journey-themed play.

Literacy	Number
Begins to understand that print carries meaning and has different purposes. Write some or all of their name. Starts to develop phonic knowledge by linking sounds to letters, naming and sounding some letters and writing recognisable letters in sequence, such as in their own name	Link numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5 and 10 deeper learning. Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.



The World	Expressive Arts
Notices and talks about differences between people, places and communities. Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world.	Remember and sing entire songs (children will be learning the songs for their performance. Uses movement and sounds to express experiences, expertise, ideas and feelings. Introduces a storyline or narrative into their play.

Key Vocabulary

journey, travel, passenger, ticket, station, destination, map, route, bus, train, plane, boat, bridge, track, road, vehicle, safe, stop, go, build, float, story, first, next, last, over, under, through

Adaptive teaching and a Total Communication approach will include:

Visual support / real objects
(tickets, passports, maps, transport photographs, toy vehicles, road signs, story props, story maps, photographs from the zoo trip, boats, paper aeroplanes, small world transport resources)
Gestures / actions
(pretending to travel, steering vehicles, flying like an aeroplane, rowing a boat, stopping and looking before crossing, acting out Mr Gumpy's Outing and Mr Gumpy's Motor Car, retelling stories using actions, moving over, under and through obstacles)
Signing (BSL)
(key signs linked to the theme, e.g. bus, train, car, plane, boat, ticket, map, journey, stop, go, safe, help, more, look, story)

Some key experiences that your child will take part in:

Retelling Mr Gumpy's Outing
Children will listen to and retell Mr Gumpy's Outing using story props, puppets and small world characters. They will talk about the sequence of events, discuss the different characters and their actions, and join in with repeated phrases.

Helicopter Stories
Children will create their own journey stories inspired by transport and travel experiences. Adults will scribe their ideas before supporting children to act out their stories.

Creating Simple Journey Maps
Children will continue creating simple maps showing familiar journeys, such as travelling from home to nursery or places they have visited. They will develop early mark-making skills while using language to describe routes and locations.

Reflecting on Our Zoo Trip
Children will reflect on their visit to the zoo by sharing their favourite memories, talking about the animals they saw and discussing how they travelled there. They will use photographs, drawings and group discussions to recall their experiences

Transition Walks to new schools
Children will take part in transition walks to explore their new learning environments. They will talk about what they notice, ask questions and begin to feel confident and excited about moving to their new class or school.

Small World Transport City
Children will create their own transport city using roads, train tracks, bridges, tunnels, vehicles and small world figures. They will develop imaginative storylines, work collaboratively and use language linked to journeys and transport.

Transport Printing and Collage
Children will use wheels, toy vehicles, and different textured materials to create transport artwork. They will explore colour, pattern and texture while expressing their own creative ideas.

Building Train Tracks and Bridges
Children will work together to build train tracks, roads and bridges using construction resources and community blocks. They will develop problem-solving skills, learn to share ideas and work cooperatively while creating different routes for vehicles.

Beach and Water Safety
Children will explore beach and water safety through role play, stories and discussions. They will learn simple ways to keep themselves safe around water whilst developing their understanding through imaginative play.

Ways to help at home:

Active: Go on a journey together and encourage your child to notice different types of transport along the way. Talk about where you are going, the route you are taking and use words such as over, under, next to, behind, fast and slow.

Creative: Help your child create a simple journey map, draw a picture of their favourite vehicle, or make a boat or aeroplane using recycled materials. Encourage them to talk about where it might travel and who might be on the journey.

Encourage: Share stories together, such as Mr Gumpy's Outing or Mr Gumpy's Motor Car. Talk about the characters, what happened during their journey and encourage your child to retell the story in their own words using pictures or toys.

Share: Please send in a photograph or a drawing about your child's favourite journey or their visit to Hertfordshire Zoo. We will use these to help children reflect on their experiences, share their memories and celebrate their learning together at nursery.

Summer Term 2 2026 Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Information for Parents
Thursday 9th July 2026 **Friday 10th July 2026**	**First Floor Sports Day** **Ground Floor Sports Day**	This is a **family event** and all parents are asked to attend this event. **All children, including afternoon children, should arrive at school at 9:00am.** Sports Day will take place at **Bob's Park** where children and families will enjoy a range of sporting activities together. Children should wear their allocated **key colour group** (staff will share details separately). Please bring a **packed lunch and snack**. We aim to finish by **12:30pm**. Full-time children may return to nursery for their afternoon session and **after-school club will run as usual**.
Tuesday 14th July 2026 **Wednesday 15th July 2026**	**Ground Floor Class Graduation & Performance** **First Floor Class Graduation & Performance**	Performances will take place at **10:00am** and **1:30pm**. Parents of full-time children may attend either performance. Children should attend nursery at their **usual time** and wear **non-uniform**. Due to space limitations, we kindly ask for **no more than two adults per child**.
Thursday 16th July 2026	**Summer Fete will be held at Old Palace**	Morning nursery sessions will continue as normal. Afternoon and full-time children will finish school at 2:30pm. After collecting your child, families are invited to walk down to Old Palace to join us for our Summer Fete. There will be a range of exciting stalls and activities to enjoy, including face painting, henna, food stalls, toy stalls and much more. Entry is £1 per person. We would be very grateful for any donations of food, unused toys, toiletries or books to help support the event.
Thursday 23rd July 2026	**Last day of Term**	Nursery will close at 2pm.