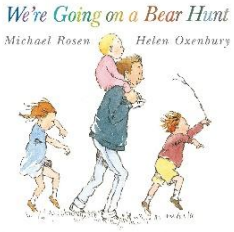

Theme: Journeys

Week 1-8 (01.06.26 – 23.07.2026)

We will help our friends to learn to:

Communication	Physical	Personal, Social, Emotional
Listen to simple stories and understand what is happening with pictures. Join in with repeated words and actions. Begin to use words to talk about what they see and do. Listen to simple instructions.	Explore different ways of moving. Enjoy movement and action songs. Develop manipulation and control. Explore different materials and tools.	Express preferences and choices. Begin to play alongside others. Follow routines. Be increasingly able to talk about and manage their emotions. Grow in independence

Literacy	Number
Enjoy sharing books. Notice pictures and talk about what they see. Begin to make marks and give meaning. Repeat words and phrases from familiar stories.	Take part in number rhymes. Notice amounts. Compare amounts, saying 'lots', 'more' or 'same'. Fill and empty containers. Begin positional language.

The World	Expressive Arts
Explore materials and the environment. Notice familiar experiences. Show interest in the world around them.	Move and dance to music. Explore paint, using fingers and other parts of their bodies as well as brushes and other tools. Begin pretend play.

Key Vocabulary

bus, train, car, bike, boat, plane, journey, go, stop, fast, slow, big, small, up, down, over, through, road, track, water, ticket, driver, passenger

Adaptive teaching and a Total Communication approach will include:

Visual support / real objects
(real vehicles, transport toys, steering wheels, tickets, maps, road signs, story props, transport picture cards, small world resources)

Gestures / actions
(pretending to drive, steering, stopping and going, rowing a boat, flying a plane, moving over and through obstacles, holding hands for road safety, showing fast and slow movements)

Signing (BSL)
(key signs linked to the theme, e.g., bus, train, car, boat, go, stop, fast, slow, more, help, big, small)

Some key experiences that your child will take part in:

Sharing We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Children will listen to and join in with We're Going on a Bear Hunt using story props, movement and repeated phrases. Adults will encourage children to use actions and simple language to help retell parts of the story.

Transport Role-Play and Small World Exploration
Children will explore a transport role-play area with steering wheels, tickets, maps and community blocks. They will pretend to travel by bus, train and other vehicles whilst developing imaginative play and communication skills.

Exploring a Mystery Travel Bag
Children will investigate a mystery travel bag containing toy cars, planes and boats. Adults will model language to help children name vehicles and describe what they notice.

Transport Songs and Music Sessions
Children will join in with songs such as The Wheels on the Bus, Row Row Row Your Boat and Down at the Station. They will use actions, repeated words and movement to support communication and listening skills.

Building Roads, Tracks and Journeys
Children will use small world resources to create roads, bridges and train tracks. They will move vehicles through different routes and use language such as under, over and through.

Story Sequencing and Retelling
Children will use simple sequencing cards and story props linked to We're Going on a Bear Hunt to begin remembering and retelling events in order using words such as first, next and last.

Road Safety and Exploring the Local Area
Children will take part in simple road safety experiences and walks where they will practise holding hands, noticing familiar signs and talking about ways to stay safe on journeys.

Creating a Bear Hunt Obstacle Course
Children will move through tunnels, stepping stones, grass and caves to recreate We're Going on a Bear Hunt. They will explore movement and positional language through active play.

Water and Travel Exploration
Water and Travel Exploration
Children will explore boats and water play using tubes, guttering and containers. They will enjoy filling and emptying, moving water and watching how boats travel through the water.

Large-Scale Transport Painting and Mark Making
Children will create marks using toy cars, trains and paint. They will explore movement, colour and pattern while making tracks and experimenting with different painting tools.

Building and Constructing Vehicles
Children will work together to build buses and trains using large cardboard boxes and construction materials. They will explore shape, space and imaginative storytelling.

Transport Art and Creative Exploration
Children will use clay, collage materials and printing techniques to create their own vehicles and transport scenes, developing fine motor skills and creativity.

Ways to help at home:

Active: Go on a short journey together by walking to the park, local shops or travelling on a bus. Talk about what your child can see along the way such as cars, buses, bikes, traffic lights and crossings.

Creative: Make a simple vehicle using everyday materials from home such as rolling newspaper, cardboard boxes, paper tubes or containers. Decorate it together using paint, crayons or colouring pens and talk about where your vehicle might travel.

Encourage: Make journeys fun by talking to your child about the different vehicles you see when you are out together. Listen out for sounds and see if your child can spot and name what they can hear, such as a bus, car, train or plane.

Share: Please send in a photo of your child enjoying a journey, such as walking to the park, travelling on a bus, riding a scooter or exploring your local area together.

Key dates for this term:

9th June 9:00am–10:00am
Supporting Your Child's Physical Development Through Play Workshop with Mirka

11th June 9am-10am
SEND Transition Coffee Morning with Eloise from Phoenix

Triple P (Positive Parenting Program):
Session 1: 18th June 12.30-1.30pm
Building Independence: Toilet Training and Positive Transitions

19th Father's Day Activities
Celebrating fathers, grandads, uncles, brothers, and other special people in our lives.

23rd June 9am-10am: Supporting 'Early Maths at Home' workshop with Shazna

25th June Red Building Sports Day (sports day will be held in school for children only)

29th June 12.30-1.30pm Triple P (Positive Parenting Program):
Session 2: Building Independence: Toilet Training and Positive Transitions

30th June 9.15am
Trip to Mudchute Farm (Red Building morning children)

3rd July 12.30pm
Trip to Mudchute Farm (Red Building afternoon children)

16th July Summer Fete
Venue: Old Palace (Time TBC)

23rd July Last Day of Term
(school closes at 2pm)

Getting Ready for Transition to Nursery

Starting nursery is an exciting milestone and we are looking forward to welcoming our Red Building friends (2 year olds) to our nursery classes. Transitioning into nursery is a big step and there are lots of simple things families can do at home to help children feel confident, secure and ready for this new experience.

Encourage independence
Support your child to begin doing simple tasks for themselves such as putting on and taking off their coat, attempting to put on shoes, washing and drying hands and feeding themselves. These small steps help children feel more confident and independent when they begin nursery as it is a bigger space with more children.

Support toilet training
If your child is beginning toilet training, now is a great time to establish consistent routines at home. Encourage regular toilet visits and support your child to practise pulling clothing up and down independently and washing their hands afterwards. We understand that children develop at different rates and staff will work closely with families throughout this process.

Develop communication and language
Spend time talking, singing songs and sharing stories together. Encourage your child to make choices, express their needs and talk about their day to build confidence in communicating with others.

Build routines
Practising routines such as getting dressed, meal times and sleep routines can help children feel more prepared for nursery life.

Transition Meeting
Transition meetings for families will take place on Monday 6th July at 1:00pm. This will be an opportunity to meet staff, find out more about nursery routines and expectations, and ask any questions you may have to help prepare for a smooth and positive start to nursery. During the transition meeting, home visit dates and your child's key person details will also be shared to support a smooth and personalised transition into nursery.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you to support your child's transition into nursery.