Dates for your diary this half term at Strong Close

Shrove Tuesday this year is on Tuesday **17th February** which is in the half term holiday. Therefore, the children will be helping to make pancakes the following week on **Tuesday 24th February** during the session.

Stay and Play sessions for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers will run on **Tuesday mornings** from the **24th February -24th March 9.30–11.00am.** Look out for dates and times advertised on the flyers or on our Facebook page. The sessions on the **17th** and **24th March** 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**.**

Parental consultations for children who started nursery in either **September 25 or January 26** will be week commencing **2rd March.** Look out for your email inviting you to book a time with your child's key person.

Living eggs—From the 2nd March we will have an incubator for the children to see first hand how real chicks hatch from an egg and the opportunity to teach the children about different life cycles.

Wednesday **4th March** is our World Book Day at Strong Close. The children can dress up in their favourite costume or as a their favourite character. There will also be costumes available at nursery for children to wear, so please don't buy anything special.

Week commencing **9th March is National Let's Dance Week** for all our children and families. Lookout for the flyer with more information on the different activities available over the course of this week.

Dates for your diary this half term at Strong Close

Thursday 19th March we will celebrate **Red Nose Day** combined with **World Down Syndrome and World Autism Day** which are celebrated over the next few weeks. The children and staff can wear odd socks and /or something blue or red. We are selling red noses and parents/carers can join in too!

This term the children will be taking part in the **Bradford Libraries Rhyme Challenge,** which is a fun way to introduce children to rhymes that you can also learn at home. See on our website and Facebook page for the rhyme of the week. For more information go to **https://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries/children-and-young-people/rhyme-challenge/**

Friday 20th March - School is closed for Eid and a Staff Training Day. Eid-al-Fitr is the Muslim festival marking the end of Ramadan which began week commencing **17th February.** We will be having an Eid party on **Wednesday 25th March** where party clothes can be worn.

Parent Café ! 9.00am on **Thursday 26th March** for all families with information on **Screen Time** by the 50 Things To Do Before You're Five team.

Rachel our Artist in Residence is at nursery every Wednesday and this half term she will be working with the children in **red** and **purple rooms.**

Friday 27th March School closes for the Easter holidays and re opens on **Monday 13th April.**

Strong Close Nursery School, Airedale Road, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD21 4LW.
Tel: 01535 605272
Email office@strongclose.co.uk
Website http://www.strongclosenscc.co.uk/

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

Spring 2 2026

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 and Facebook pages.

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

Jeśli potrzebujesz tlumaczenia na jezyk polski uzyj numeru.

যদি এই অনুবাদ বাংলায় চান তাহলে উপরের সংখ্যায় যোগাযোগ করুন.

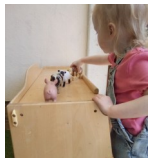
اگر آپ اردو میں اس کا ترجمہ کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو اوپر نمبرسے رابطہ یکر

THIS HALF-TERM IN NURSERY

Red and Purple Room – 2-3 year olds

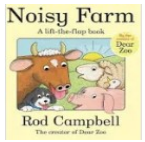
Extending children's interests, knowledge and skills

The children in **red** and **purple** rooms have shown an interest in different animals. They have been transporting them from one area to another and developing their language by using symbolic sounds to represent animal noises.



Why not visit **CBeebies Parenting** for fun **'All Day Chat'** activities to help develop your child's speech and language:- https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/2-to-3-year-old-child-development-activities

Introducing new knowledge and skills



Noisy Farm by Rod Campbell is the core story in **red** and **purple** rooms this half term. Join Sam the farm dog for a day on the farm to meet lots of animals and their young in this interactive lift-the-flap story. We will be developing the children's language by learning the names of the animals and their babies. We will also be learning how to take care of the chicks when our special visitors arrive.

How you can help support your child's learning

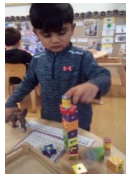
Talking about sounds with your child is a great way to interact and build their conversation. Why not visit **CBeebies Parenting** at https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/whats-that-sound/znnqmfr and go on a listening walk outdoors and see which sounds capture their interest. You can start by talking about sounds before you leave the house, for example when you zip up their

CBeebies PARENTING

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

Extending children's interests, knowledge and skills

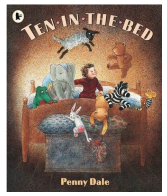
The children in **blue** and **yellow** rooms have been fascinated by our giant land snails. They have been finding out about what they like to eat and how to take care of them. In order to extend the children's knowledge we will be taking care of the chicks, watching them hatch, researching what they like to eat and seeing them grow.



In **green** room, we have continued to follow the children's interest in numbers and sequencing. They have been counting, comparing, sorting patterns and exploring number problems. This half term we will be using our core story **'Ten in the Bed'** to introduce concepts such as subtraction and subitising.

Introducing new knowledge and skills

Our core story this term in **blue** and **yellow** rooms is **Handa's Hen by Eileen Browne.** We will be listening to this wonderful tale of two friends who are looking for Grandma's hen and encouraging the children to join in and help retell the story. We will play games to name and describe all the different animals such as stripy, little or beautiful. We will be talking to the children about the lives of people in Kenya where the story is set and comparing it to here in England. We will help the children to use a globe and talk about how far Kenya is from England, how we might get there and what route we might take. We will be looking at the life cycles of other animals including frogs and talking about animals that come from eggs**.** The children will have lots of opportunities to grow a variety of different vegetables and flowers, including sunflowers.



Ten in the Bed by Penny Dale is the core story in **green** room this half term**.** This is a picture book with a moving, bouncy rhyme linked to number. The children will be exploring loud and quiet noises including, shouting, crashing and bumping sounds. They will also be exploring numbers 1-10, acting out the rhyme and learning the signs for the animals and the actions in the story.

How you can help support your child's learning

You can help and support your child's learning by reading our core story at home together. Sharing books is a great way to spark chat with your little one. Why not borrow the story from our library. You can also watch the adults from nursery read our core stories over the coming weeks.

Watch out for our letter sound of the week and play "I Spy" either at home or on your way to nursery and try and find other objects that begin with the same initial sound. You could also talk about the letters in your child's name and what initial sound their name starts with. Go to https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/what-can-we-spot-on-the-way/z6s26v4 for other ideas to support your child.

Why not have a go at the movements our older children are learning as part of our **Write Dance** programme. This specifically adapted programme supports the children to develop the key graphic shapes that make up all letters through an interactive movement and dance experience. Please ask a member of staff if you would like more information so you can try this at home or join in with a session in our **Let's Dance Week.**