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**Designated Child Protection:** Mr Peter Allen. **Designated Special Educational Needs Coordinator:** Miss Emma Toseland

## Brambles Spring Term Curriculum Letter 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Spring term at Brambles.

At the heart of Brambles we believe that we learn to play and play to learn through real and purposeful activities and opportunities in nature and our community.

Spring Term: Weekly Focus	
Spring One Term: 7 <sup>th</sup> January- 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Spring Two Term: 24 <sup>th</sup> February – 4 <sup>th</sup> April
Winter Animals	Caterpillars and Butterflies
Hibernation	Brilliant Books
Music	Tadpoles and Frogs
Birds	Squirrels
Construction	Spring Flowers
Recycling	Bunnies

Area of Learning	Main Learning Focus
Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Know many rhymes and be able to talk about familiar books.</li> <li>Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens.</li> <li>Use a wider range of vocabulary.</li> <li>Use talk to organise themselves and their play.</li> </ul>
Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use one handed tools and equipment.</li> <li>Use a comfortable grip when holding pencils and pens.</li> <li>Go up steps and stairs, or climb apparatus, using alternate feet.</li> <li>Use large muscle movements to wave flags, streamers, paint and make marks.</li> <li>Be increasingly independent as they get dressed and undressed, for example putting on coats and doing up zips.</li> </ul>
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop their sense of responsibility.</li> <li>Increasingly follow rules, understanding why they are important.</li> <li>Show more confidence in new social situations.</li> <li>Play with one or more other children, extending play ideas.</li> <li>Begin to understand how others might be feeling.</li> </ul>

Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use some print and letter knowledge eg writing a pretend shopping list, mark making.</li> <li>• Engage in conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.</li> <li>• Begin to develop their phonological awareness such as recognising initial sound.</li> </ul>
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show finger numbers up to 5.</li> <li>• Recite numbers past 5.</li> <li>• Talk about and explore 2D shapes.</li> <li>• Understand positional words e.g. The bag is under the table</li> </ul>
Understanding the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show interest in different occupations.</li> <li>• Use all of their senses to explore natural materials.</li> <li>• Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.</li> <li>• Plant seeds and care for growing plants.</li> <li>• Understand Life Cycles.</li> </ul>
Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make imaginative and complex 'small worlds' with blocks and construction.</li> <li>• Begin to develop complex stories using small world resources.</li> <li>• Remember and sing entire songs.</li> <li>• Play musical instruments with increasing control.</li> <li>• Listen with increased attention to sounds.</li> </ul>

Below are a few reminders for the Spring term:

### Clothing

Please put your child in clothing that they are able to manage themselves to help support independence whilst at Brambles such as Joggers and leggings and not dungarees or tights. Shoes that they are able to do themselves such as slip-on or Velcro, please no laces unless they can tie them without support. Please ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly marked with their name (jumpers, coats, hats, etc.). Although we do try, Pre-school Staff cannot take responsibility for misplaced or missing uniforms etc. We will be sending the green bags from the children's pegs home at Half term so that their clothes can be replenished.

### Bikes/Scooters

As the weather continues to improve we have noticed a number of children are now coming to Brambles on their bikes and scooters, we encourage biking and scootering to school and helmets should be worn. However please can we ask that these are not left in the Kids Club Garden or leaning against the school wall by the main entrance.

If you would like to leave your child's scooter or bike for collection time then please can they be placed at the grey doors in the small bike stand. Pre School cannot take any responsibility for these items if they are damaged or stolen while left outside.

## Pre-school Times

It is important that children are dropped off and collected on time. If you are running late please let Brambles know by ringing or emailing on the above contact details.

Please note that if you are running late and knock on the grey door a member of staff will be with you as quickly as we can, if we do not answer immediately it will be because we are with the other children in the setting and we will be with you as soon as we are able to.

If your child is to be collected or dropped off at Lunchtime please use the grey door opposite The Green. This will also be the entrance/ exit if you are collecting or dropping off your child at any other time.

If another adult is collecting your child, please ensure that they know the collection time and entrance to use and in the interest of the children's safety please make sure a member of staff has been made aware prior to collection time.

## Absences

Please keep in touch and let Brambles know if your child is off for any reason; staff have a legal duty to record all absences. Please do this at least 15 minutes before the session they are due to attend. This can be done via an email to [Brambles@brampton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:Brambles@brampton.cambs.sch.uk) or a phone call and leave a voice mail 01480375063 **option 2**.

If your child has been vomiting or had diarrhoea, your child can return to Brambles 48 hours after their last episode in accordance with the school policy.

We would also ask that if you have given your child Calpol/Nurofen or similar medications before school you consider if they are actually well enough to attend Brambles.

Please hand any prescribed medication to a member of staff on the door so that the correct procedure can be followed and do not leave any medication in your child's lunch boxes or bags.

## Important Dates

Dates to remember	Event
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to School
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Closing date to apply for School
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Brambles & Reception Disco
<b>Half term – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb- Friday 21st Feb</b>	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Children return to School
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February- Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of term
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Teacher Training Day
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Children return to School

Thank you for your continued support.  
The Brambles Team