



Laurel Farm  
Steiner  
Kindergarten

## Embedded curriculum for our 5- and 6-year-olds.

We aim to provide an ambitious embedded curriculum for our 5- and 6-year-olds. To support the oldest children in kindergarten, we provide differentiated opportunities and responsibilities within the curriculum, which are designed to stretch and challenge them in all areas of learning.

The following opportunities will be planned for these children throughout the school year:

### Daily rhythm

- ✧ Expectation to help with daily work first thing in the morning, chopping vegetables, polishing wooden bowls, gardening, cleaning ...
- ✧ Being involved in activities that foster ordering and sequencing, e.g. setting up painting and clearing up afterwards.
- ✧ Using sharp knives for chopping and learning to use real tools safely for woodwork
- ✧ Helping little ones get ready in the lobby, help with their clothing shoe laces etc.
- ✧ Learning to solve conflicts independently
- ✧ Learning to be a good example for the little ones to imitate, especially at ringtime or story and at the snack table - expectation to help the teacher show the little ones the right thing to do
- ✧ Read to younger children, if they can already read
- ✧ Write tickets and signs if they can already write or show an interest in writing/mark-making
- ✧ Opportunities for mark-making (paper and crayons are freely available)
- ✧ Setting the table (counting and arranging)
- ✧ Serving food at the snack table (careful carrying, pouring from a jug)
- ✧ Helping to clear up after snack time (washing up, clearing and wiping the tables, sweeping the floor)
- ✧ Performing puppet shows for younger children at play time (begin to make up own stories or re-enact known stories) - puppets and props are freely available
- ✧ Re-enacting stories or experiences in their role play (dressing up clothes are available)

### Weekly rhythm

- ✧ Coming on outdoor day and expedition day/walk day (walk a longer distance, run, carry a rucksack, build up physical strength, gross motor skills, determination and will forces, resilience)
- ✧ Taking part in painting once a week (learning to hold a paint brush correctly and paint in a clean technique, ordering and sequencing when helping set-up and clear-up)



- ✧ Taking part in ambitious handwork activities (sewing, weaving, felting, crafts, finger-knitting) to develop fine motor skills.
- ✧ Attending weekly afternoon sessions for an advanced ring time, picnic, play and more ambitious gardening, woodwork, craft and sewing projects.

### Yearly rhythm

- ✧ Performing puppet shows for the group at story time at various times during the year
- ✧ Helping with festival preparations, setting up festival table etc.
- ✧ Skipping in a rope in the summer term (balance, rhythm, counting, physical development)
- ✧ House, tree, person drawings in the summer term (beginning to work with instruction rather than imitation)

During the autumn term we will learn basic stitches and embroidery and start weaving a blanket. It's a long-term project where they learn about tension and designing a pattern. This is a creative and mathematical project requiring patience, focus and hard work.



During the winter months the children will make pom-poms and carry on with their weaving frames.



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In the Spring we will make finger knitted skipping ropes with wooden handles. Having finished skipping ropes the children make a storybook. They will draw pictures to make a story, thinking of a beginning, middle and end. They dictate the story and are given the opportunity to write their own words if they are able to. They will make a cover and bind their book to finish it. They are learning literacy and writing.

The final and most rewarding project is for the child to make a baby doll or hopping horses. They will sew a baby with limbs, and make clothes for their baby. This project requires hard work and patience. The sewing has to be neat with small stitches, with thought to the size and features for the baby.

The children use and develop the embroidery skills they have learnt at kindergarten to design and make a baby blanket. Planning their stitches and colours to make a unique design.





On their last days of kindergarten there is a baby naming ceremony or horse naming ceremony and the child will take all their projects home after final end of year Rosebud Ceremony.