

Reception Newsletter

We hope you had an enjoyable Easter break and have come back to school ready to do lots of learning linked to our topic this half term of *Growth*. We will be looking at growth of animals and life cycles, linked to the story of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and we will look at non-fiction facts about lifecycles. This will be linked to the *Cornerstones* topic of 'Why do ladybirds have spots?' where we will be introducing this to the children by going on a mini-beast hunt around school and looking for different things that grow.

Here is a little bit about some of the things we will be covering in the different areas of learning:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:



This term we will be encouraging the children to become more independent learners, ready for their move up to Year 1. They will have independent 'must do' activities to help them to develop a responsibility for their own learning, the children will need to gain coloured lollypop sticks for set activities. We will also be encouraging the children to independently access challenge activities that will be set out in different areas of learning, linked to the topic. We will be encouraging the children to persevere at activities they find hard and to improve their concentration and focus when doing work. We will also be continuing to encourage the children to play co-operatively with others, sharing and taking turns well. We will be looking at caring for each other, animals and plants and what the children need to do in order to help them grow.

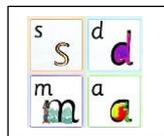
Physical Development

Your child will be participating in P.E. lessons. They will be expected to have a full P.E. kit in school for these lessons and will need to be able to get themselves changed. This half term the children will be looking at learning gymnastic skills such as rolling, jumping and balancing. The children will also develop skills of travelling along and climbing up large equipment. They will be taught how to use and handle this equipment safely. As well as developing these gross motor skills the children will be developing their fine motor skills. They will do this by practising letter and number formation and holding the pencil correctly, threading objects and making models with play-dough. They will also be practising using cutlery to cut up fruit and vegetables, to reinforce what is done at meal times and how to use a knife and fork correctly and safely. Your child will also be participating in dance lessons with Becky, a specialist dance teacher on a Friday.

Communication and Language



This term the children will be discussing in detail stories that they have heard and answering questions about them. The children will be consolidating their phonic sound knowledge during daily RWI sessions in small groups focusing on their own individual next steps. The children will also be encouraged to start to use this knowledge to read their own guided reading books. As well as developing their fluency in reading they will be encouraged to answer questions about what they have read to help develop their comprehension skills. They will be continuing to learn their key words and be able to access further reading on Bug Club. The children will also be encouraged to use their language to express their needs and wishes to others in an articulate manner.



Literacy

Your child will consolidate their phonic knowledge of the single sounds and special friends they have learnt and they will start to use this knowledge in their writing. The children will now start to hear the sounds in words and write these sounds they can hear, independently. They will also start to spell some of the key words correctly in their writing. The children will have the opportunity to write sentences, stories, facts and diary entries. There will be a continued focus this term on the children's presentation and correct letter and number formation. Helping to reinforce this at home will be very helpful. Please remind your child to start their letters at the top and reinforce the position of letters on a line or above or below it e.g. a, b, p.



Mathematics

Your child will consolidate their number knowledge of counting out objects accurately and recognising, ordering and saying numbers in order from 1-20 and back. The children will also begin to count in ten's and two's and look at numbers to 100 counting forwards and backwards. They will then use this knowledge to start to know some number facts such as one less and one more. They will continue to develop their knowledge of addition and subtraction. They will begin to look at money and coin recognition in relation to the shop role-play areas. They will continue to sort and match 2D and 3D shapes and begin to look at the properties of shapes, using the correct mathematical language to describe these.



Understanding the World

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The children will talk about things in their environment examining similarities and differences. They will look at planting seeds and helping them to grow. They will look at animals and how to care for them. In Reception we have caterpillars which have now changed into cocoons, the children will watch as they now develop into butterflies. We also have tadpoles which we hope will change into frogs. Your child will get the opportunity to use various ICT equipment. They will also talk about what they do at home and how this is similar or different to their friends in the class.

Expressive Arts and Design



Your child will build on their repertoire of songs. They will also be provided with a number of creative opportunities, including painting with various tools, modelling and creating pictures with different textures. They will also be encouraged to use their knowledge of stories to act them out in their own role-play.

We will keep you up-dated with any events that may be taking place in Reception or in school. Please make sure you check in their book bags for any letters that may be sent home. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions about what your child is doing in school or any queries about how you can help support your child's learning at home.

Now the weather is finally improving please can you ensure your child has a water bottle in school every day, as well as a sun hat or cap. It is also helpful if you could put your child's sun cream on before school and send in a named bottle if you would like them to top up during the day.

Thank you for all your help with the homework projects, the children really enjoy sharing what they have been doing at home with their friends.

Finally can be just remind parents of the importance of your Child's attendance in Reception, we are working on a daily phonics scheme which will help develop your child's reading skills. Regular attendance helps prevent gaps in their understanding and also helps build their confidence when interacting with their friends in the setting.

DATES:

19.6.18- Reception trip to 'All Things Wild'

Thank you

Mrs Hanson, Mrs Law, Mrs Hemming, Miss Edmonds and Mrs Cotterill