

Reception Newsletter

Parrot Class: Ms Sharma (Year leader)

Goldfish class teacher: Mrs Ali , Mrs Sibinska & Mrs Keddo

Rabbit Class teacher: Ms Inwood, Mrs Hussain & Mrs Sikandari

Hamster Class teacher: Mrs Fernando, Mrs Mul-lane and Mrs Abdullah

Welcome back, we hope you have had a wonderful time with your families during the holidays. The children have had some well deserved rest and now they should be ready to start another exciting term.

Our topic this term is 'It's the Circle of Life'. The children will spend the first week back settling in and getting to know the new teachers in the unit and they will be reminded of expectations and behaviour.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar will be the focus text for this half term. The children will be learning the story in the Literacy Talk for Writing lessons. We will be receiving a delivery of caterpillars from Insect Lore. The children will watch the caterpillars grow and turn into a butterfly. They will make links between the book and the real life caterpillars.

Phonics

The children have been taught all phase 2 sounds and tricky words and most of phase 3. Most children are now able to apply this to segment and blend to read words.

- We will continue re-capping phase 2 and 3 sounds and tricky words in our phonics lesson.
- This term we will be teaching phase 4 and introducing new tricky words.
- Please ensure you read with your child at home using the word boxes and reading books.

Understanding the world

This term the children will be learning about the changes that happen to the caterpillars and learning how to ask questions to find out more information. They will be making detailed observations on what they see happening and be able to explain. They will link this knowledge to the story The Very Hungry Caterpillar.

The children will also be looking at environments that insects live in and comparing similarities and differences.

Religious education

- Children will be taught following the Luton agreed syllabus where they will start talking about places that are special to them. They will learn about holy places for Muslims and Christians and look at similarities and differences between the holy buildings.

Literacy

In reception we will be continuing Talk for Writing. The children will be learning the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. They will be using a text map to learn the story using actions. The children will be taught about story language. The children will be building up their skills in order to write their own story based on the Very Hungry Caterpillar. We will be teaching them how to write sentences and apply their phonics knowledge to do this.

A big focus this half term is handwriting and formation of letters and numbers. Please practise this at home as it is essential that children's writing is legible in order for them to meet the expected level by the end of the year.

Expressive Art and Design

The children will be learning how to use their imagination and creativity to create models/art using different media.

Maths

Children are becoming more secure in addition and subtraction. A big focus will now be on numbers after 10 as children need to order numbers from 0-20 to meet the expected level. We will also be teaching halving and shape.

Personal, Social and Emotional development

We will be learning how to resolve conflict with our friends using language and compromise instead of unkind actions and words.



'It's the Circle of Life'

Communication and Language

This area of learning is a big focus. There will be key vocabulary for them to learn linked to our topic to broaden their vocabulary. The main focus will be teaching children how to ask questions.

Homework

Word boxes

These are a set of words that children practise reading at home. Once they are able to read all the words, teachers will check and give the child the next set. This will support children's reading.

Reading books

Children will have a reading book home in their red book bags. These books might be picture books where children are required to use the pictures to tell the story. Some books will have simple words for children to read by segmenting the sounds and blending them to read. Parents and families can make a comment in the reading record to show that the child has read at home. We encourage parents to comment to celebrate how often children are reading.

Important dates (details will be confirmed at a later date)

- **Tuesdays are parent reading mornings from 8.40-9.00**
- **Bank holiday Monday 6th May**
- **Health Screenings 20th and 21st May**
- **End of term Friday 24th May**