



Reception Newsletter – Term 6 – All Creatures Great and Small



Well, here we are. Our final half term of the year. We do hope that you all enjoyed the half term break and that you were able to enjoy some of the amazing weather that we had. We now seem to back into a period of unsettled weather, although the gardens will certainly thank us for this. The title of our topic remains the same as last term, although this term we will have the chance to explore a variety of larger animals, such as bears, various jungle animals and a look back to prehistoric times with the dinosaurs. In addition to this, we will also take a trip back in time in our own lives, comparing what we could do at the beginning of the year, to what we can do now. Later in the term, we will begin to discuss transition and what the future holds for us in Year One. P.E. lessons will continue on a Wednesday and a Friday, so please ensure your child is in P.E. kit on both days. If these happen to clash with a Forest School date, then Forest School clothing takes priority. We can still do P.E. with the children in these clothes, so please don't worry. Some dates for your diary are below, but please do keep an eye on your emails for any last-minute changes or further details, as this part of the Summer Term is always a busy one.

Hearing and Sight Tests:-

The school nurses tested your child's hearing back in March and at the time of writing, they will be coming back to check their eyesight on Friday 5th June. Any child who failed the initial hearing test will be retested alongside their eyesight check. If they fail the hearing test again, then they will be referred to Audiology. Any child who fails their sight test will be referred directly to ophthalmology. You can take them directly to the optician yourselves if this is the case, but please also let us know in both cases, so that we have to make the necessary adjustments in class. The school nurses "do not" pass on this information to us.

Forest School:-

- Elm Class - Thursday 4th June, Friday 19th June and Wednesday 1st July.
- Ash Class – Thursday 11th June, Thursday 25th June, Thursday 9th July.

Reading and Maths at home:-

Thank you for your support with reading and completing 1-minute maths practice at home. The number of times each week that the children are reading has taken a dip, so we do ask you to remember to record each time you read with your child in their reading record, even if your comment is very similar to the previous time. We do take the time to read these comments and can adjust your child's level or provide support accordingly.

Handwriting:-

Over the course of this half term, we will be placing an extra emphasis on your child's letter and number formation in preparation for their transition into Year One. Attached to this newsletter are the letter and number formation chants for you to use at home. We have sent these to you previously, but would appreciate any extra focus you can now give this before the end of term and over the course of the summer holidays. This does not have to be a sit-down activity though. You can use a variety of different methods such as in chalk, sand, flour, rice and using paintbrushes and water. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- To understand that everyone is unique and special.
- To express how they feel when change happens.
- To learn about how to look after ourselves.
- To understand how we and our friends have changed throughout the year.
- Transition - Looking forwards, reflecting back – to next year/upon this year/upon ourselves.
- To know and understand who they can ask for help now and in the future.

Communication and Language

- Recall facts using new vocabulary.
- Talk with confidence about why things happen using new vocabulary learnt.
- Engage in meaningful conversation with others.
- Make comments about their learning using learnt vocabulary.

Physical Development – Target

- To develop aiming and accuracy when working as a team to roll the ball to a target/through a tunnel/kicking a football towards a goal/aiming into a basketball hoop/putting with a golf club/returning a ball using a racket.
- To explore the underarm throw when aiming towards a target/passing and throwing with a partner.
- To use the overhead throw to develop aiming in different directions and heights.

Understanding the World

- History - Compare through photographs how they have changed since being a baby – also links to PSED this term.
- Geography - Languages Day - similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries
- Science – Healthy Eating and self-care – link to people who help us, such as doctors, nurses, dentists, paramedics.



Term 6 – Summer '26

All Creatures Great and Small

Expressive Art and Design

- **Sculpting** - Clay – minibeasts/animals – with natural materials for detail.
- **Textiles** - sewing – creating large animals.

R.E. - World Faith stories

- Which stories are special and why?
- During the next half term, we will revisit each faith in turn and listen to another of their stories to build upon and consolidate our previous learning.

Literacy

- Our focus texts for this term will include a variety of different fiction and non-fiction books related to bears, jungle animals and dinosaurs. We will create animal fact files and write stories using our phonic knowledge and understanding of writing. We will be aiming to write in full sentences with a greater focus on using a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop. Once we have completed our work, we will practise reading through it to check that it makes sense. Daily phonics lessons will continue, consolidating our letter sound and tricky word knowledge, alongside supporting our sentence writing.

Phonics

- Long vowel sounds – CVCC, CCVC, CCCVC, CCV, CCVCC words
- Words ending –s /s/ or -s /z/ or -es
- Root words ending in: –ing, –ed /t/, –ed /id/ /ed/, –ed /d/-er/-est
- All taught tricky words will be reviewed to secure spelling.

Key Dates - School Trip

- Please do keep an eye on your emails for details of our school trip this term. In order for this to go ahead, we will need a number of parent volunteers to support us. More information to follow very soon.

Maths

- There will be lots of different activities designed to consolidate our knowledge of the number system, such as the different counting strategies for larger numbers, the composition of numbers to support an automatic recall of the different pairs of numbers that make 5/10, the magnitude of number, subitising with smaller numbers, plus splitting numbers into equal and unequal parts to support our understanding of odd, even and double numbers.