



Reception Newsletter – Term 5 – All Things Great and Small



Wow!! Where has the year gone? We are already at the beginning of the Summer Term, although where would we be, if we didn't take some time to talk about the weather again. Despite the Easter holidays teasing us with many signs of Spring and Summer, on Wednesday, we watched the torrential rain outside the window. For the time being, please ensure that your child has a coat in school every day and if they are not yet able to do up their zip, we would appreciate you helping your child to practice this at home.

Thank you for your support with reading and completing 1-minute maths practice at home. We will be continuing to count your child's stars and ticks each week and look forward to celebrating their successes in our whole school Celebration Worship every Friday morning. If you are at all unsure about which areas to focus on in 1-minute maths, then we would recommend all of subitising, addition (section 1, 2, 3 and 11), subtraction (section 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 11), multiplication (section 6 and section 7) and division (section 16). You will find that some areas are trickier than others, however the hint button usually makes this become clearer. If you have any questions, we are more than happy to help.

Forest School will continue on the dates below:-

- Miss Ellison's Class (Ash Class) – Thursday 1st May, Thursday 15th May (Ash Class parents are welcome to join in with the session on this date between 9.15am and 10.15am.)
- Mr. Redpath's Class (Elm Class) – Thursday 8th May (Elm Class parents are welcome to join in with the session on this date between 9.15am and 10.15am.), Thursday 22nd May.

As we will be learning lots about the great outdoors this half term, you may like to take the opportunity to have your own adventures with your child around the garden or further afield. Take a look at how the seasons are changing: go on insect hunts; build habitats for insects or other small animals; or you could even plant some seeds and other flowers/vegetables and watch them grow. We would love to hear about your adventures. If you are happy to share any photographs, these can be emailed to office@bridge.kent.sch.uk, and they will be forwarded through to us to show on the large screen in class.

And finally, we are on the lookout for junk modelling materials to use during our creative activities this term. Cereal and or any Easter egg boxes/packaging that are left over are fantastic, alongside kitchen/toilet roll tubes, clean yoghurt pots, plastic bottles/tops, and other unwanted craft materials. Please do not send in any actual egg boxes or product boxes that previously contained nuts. You can send these in with your child over the course of the next week. The children look forward to returning them to you with many layers of glue, Sellotape and any other materials they can find.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- To learn about making friends, solving friendship problems when they occur.
- To learn about what makes a good friendship.
- To work with others, helping them to feel part of a group.
- To show respect in how they treat others.
- To know how to help themselves and others, when they feel upset or are hurt.

Communication and Language

- Be able to explain some different lifecycles (sunflower, frog, butterfly)
- Name and sort a range of living things.
- Talk about the differences in environments and animal habitats.
- Engage in meaningful conversation with others.
- Explain some consequences that actions can have (littering, recycling etc.)

Physical Development – Coordination

- To explore using hand and sports equipment, either individually or with a partner.
- To develop hand/eye coordination using equipment.
- To develop foot/eye coordination using equipment.
- To explore and develop the use of coordination using unilateral movements (one limb) and bilateral movements (both limbs working together).

Understanding the World

- Geography - Talk about the impact of human action on the seas e.g. plastic pollution (Text: Someone Swallowed Stanley, Dear Greenpeace)
- Geography - Explore our local environment and what grows here that of another country (Text: Handa's Surprise)
- Science – insect and animal life cycles - find minibeasts and create habitats for them.



Term 5 – Summer '25

All Things Great and Small

Expressive Art and Design

- Sculpting - Clay – minibeasts/animals – with natural materials for detail.
- Joining – tying knots using different materials.
- Textiles - sewing – making bunting.

R.E. - World Faith stories

- Which stories are special and why?

Literacy

- Our focus texts for this term will include a variety of Eric Carle stories plus the Vivian French books, Caterpillar Butterfly and Yucky Worms. These final stories provide a useful contrast between fiction and non-fiction in the same text. We will expand our vocabulary – learning new words like insect, cocoon, nocturnal etc. We will also ask and answers questions about different minibeasts, using how, when, what, why and where words to classify them and learn how we can identify which are insects. We will go on minibeast hunts and learn to care for the creatures we find, creating minibeast hotels. As the children develop their knowledge, they will write for purposes such as labelling, lists, questions and answers and some facts.

Phonics

- Short vowels - CVCC words, CCVC words, CCVCC, CCCVC, CCCVCC words, longer words, compound words, root words ending in ing, ed /t/, ed /id/ /ed/, est
- Tricky words – said, so, have, like, some, come, love, do, were, here, little, says, there, when, what, one, out, today

Key Dates

Forest School Parent Sharing sessions

- Mr. Redpath's Class (Elm Class) – Thursday 8th May – 9.15am to 10.15am
- Miss Ellison's Class (Ash Class) – Thursday 15th May – 9.15am to 10.15am

Maths

- To consolidate counting skills, counting to larger numbers and practising a range of counting strategies.
- The magnitude of number will be explored, for example, 8 being quite a lot more than 2, but 4 being just a little bit more than 2.
- To continue focusing on our knowledge of number facts.
- To use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities.