



Calke Class Newsletter

Summer Term 1 – April 2026

Working together to

inspire nurture empower

Welcome Back & Updates

Welcome back Calke, we hope everyone has had a wonderful, restful break and is ready to jump straight back in. We have so much to look forwards to this half term, our topic is **'First Came the Egg'**, and we will be spending lots more time outdoors, exploring the world around and beneath our feet. We will also be learning about life cycles, discovering how different animals grow and change through hands-on and sensory experiences.

Check out **Evidence for Learning** for photos of the fantastic work your children will be doing this half term, and keep an eye on our social media pages, too!

If you have any questions or would like to get in touch, please don't hesitate to contact me on: bethany.hill@ivy.set.org (Class Teacher)

Key Concepts and Skills

Our topic this half term is **'First Came the Egg'**, where we will be exploring the beautiful wonders of the world, life cycles and how tiny little creatures can blossom! Our sensory stories will focus largely on new life and how life is supported in all different areas in the world, going from baby chicks at the farm, to coral reef at the bottom of the sea, to human babies, just like we once were! In cognition, we will be getting slightly messier than usual, exploring sticky sensory tadpoles and spaghetti worms, whilst our switch work will focus on activating the song 'there's a worm at the bottom of the garden' – with a sneaky little worm visitor each time! In art, we will be getting extremely crafty representing new life using a wide range of media and materials.

Communication remains at the heart of all we do, and our students will have endless opportunities to tell us what they want and need by using TOBIs, symbols, switches and of course, their loud voices!

Reminders / additional information



If it is appropriate for your child to have snack, please use Arbor to pay for it. We have a range of snack options, including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits and juice.

This half term our hydro day is a **Monday and Tuesday morning** and **Wednesday afternoon** but please send in your child's kit at the beginning of the week as we may take them in whenever there is a space. Please include a costume/trunks, 2 towels and some body wash/shampoo.



Please remember to send in a change of clothes for your child each day, thank you.

Please send appropriate clothing now it is getting warmer outside including suncream and a sun hat.



Outdoor Learning

The world is full of wonder, which we will learn all about this half term.

Go outside into your garden or maybe go on a walk. Listen closely, what animals can you hear, what birds can you hear?

You will be surrounded by different creatures in the wild!

Feel the grass with your feet, feel the sun on your face.

A nature walk has so many benefits!



Physical

In Physical Development, we will be exploring movement through our topic "*First Came the Egg*" by encouraging students to move in different ways inspired by animals and life cycles.

Some activities you could try at home are curling up small like an egg, stretching and "hatching" into chicks, flapping like birds, or crawling like caterpillars before becoming butterflies.



Reading

We all love a good book or audiobook on YouTube!

Here are some books you could read together that link to our topic:

- What the Ladybird Heard – all the versions by Julia Donaldson.
- The Tiny Seed – Eric Carle
- The Oak Tree – Julia Donaldson

PSHE



In PSHE, we will be learning about 'Keeping Safe Online', at home you could talk together about how to use devices safely and what to do if something doesn't feel right.

Encourage your child to only use apps or websites with an adult present and remind them not to share personal information. You can also model safe behaviour by exploring age-appropriate games or videos together and discussing who they can talk to if they are worried or unsure about something they see online.

Communication



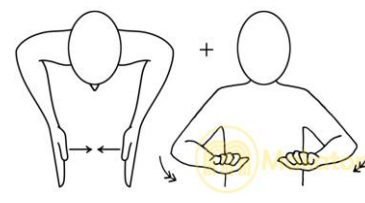
There are many songs linking to our new topic, mainly counting songs!

Listen to and sing along to a range of songs like '5 Little Ducks' on YouTube - [Five Little Ducks | Kids Songs | Super Simple Songs](#) and use your hands in a beak motion to make pecking motions on your child's body and make 'quacking noises'. Pause the song at regular intervals, does your child indicate using their preferred communication method that they want more or that they are finished?

Makaton Signs



Egg



Chick