

January 2019



## Spring Newsletter

### Butterflies and Ladybirds Reception Class

Firstly, we would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy new year. Thank you to all parents for your continuing support last term.

This term (Spring Term 1) our theme is all about Space and our Key Story is 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy.

Next half term (SpringTerm 2) our topic will be Our Senses and our Key story is 'Brown Bear' by Eric Carle.

Here is a brief outline of what we will be covering around the seven areas of learning:

**Personal Social and Emotional Development:** Forming relationships, becoming confident and independent. Building self- esteem, beginning to be able to negotiate and solve problems. To work as part of a group or class, and understand and follow the rules. Learn to adjust our behaviour to different situations, and take changes of routine in our stride.

**Communication, Language and Literacy:** We will be learning to listen to a range of stories, accurately anticipating key events and responding to what we hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. We will be becoming aware of how stories are structured and be able to describe story events and characters. We will be learning new letters and sounds every week and using these sounds to blend words. We will be learning to read words and simple sentences. We will be writing simple sentences which can be read by ourselves and others.

**Physical Development:** We will be developing increasing control over an object in pushing, patting, throwing, catching and kicking. To continue to develop pencil control and how to hold the pencil effectively to ensure letters are being formed correctly. We will be discussing the importance of a healthy diet and physical exercise, and will be discussing ways to keep healthy and safe.

**Mathematics:** Counting to 10 and beyond, saying the number that is one more than a given number, using language more/fewer to compare two sets of objects, learning number rhymes and songs, using size language and using mathematical language during role- play. We will be investigating shapes and space and comparing size. Finding the

total number of items in 2 groups by counting them all. In discussion we will begin to use vocabulary involved in adding and subtraction.

**Understanding the World:** To know some of the things that make us unique, and be able to talk about some of the similarities and differences in relation to friends or family. To talk about past and present events in our own lives and in the lives of our family members. To know that other children don't always enjoy the same things, and are sensitive to this.

**Expressive Arts and Design.** Here we will be getting messy as we use our hands and feet to explore! We will enjoy dancing, ring games, use various media to make pictures related to Space/'Whatever Next' and Our Senses/'Brown Bear'. To create simple representations of events/people and objects. To discuss ideas about space/our senses and create pictures and sculptures related to our topics e.g. pictures of rockets, models of space ships, craters on the moon pictures etc

There are many ways in which you can help to develop your child's learning at home.

1. To continue to share books with your child. To discuss the sequence of the story and the characters.
2. To continue to share your child's reading book daily and talk about the pictures.
3. To continue to practise your child's tricky words, phonic sounds and blending.
4. Continue to practise your child's maths Next Steps.
5. Look for numbers and letters in the environment e.g. car number plates, house numbers, street names, shop signs etc.

Just a reminder, Reception PE day is Wednesday and full PE kit will be required for these sessions.

**New Information:**

The Reception Class children will be taking part in Balance Ability training on 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>,13<sup>th</sup>,14<sup>th</sup> February. More information to follow.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Yorke and Mrs Ford



