



Reception Class, Summer Term

Dear Parents/ Carers,

This term our topics are: 'Where Shall We Go?' and 'Teddy Bears Picnic.'

In the first half-term, we will be focusing on the following books: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, What the Ladybird Heard and Surprising Sharks. In the second half of the term we will be reading 'Goldilocks and The Three Bears', 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and 'Biscuit Bear.'

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will continue to develop their awareness of, and a sensitivity towards, other peoples' feelings. They will develop skills to enable them to work co-operatively together in group activities and they will continue to learn to carry out tasks and activities independently.

Communication and Language

The children will learn to answer 'how' and 'why' questions relating to their own experiences. They will also focus in more detail on developing their reading comprehension skills and by listening to stories, predicting their events and responding to them with relevant comments. At this stage of the year, children will be supported in following more complex instructions involving several ideas of actions.

Physical Development

The children will start swimming this term. They will gain confidence in the water and learn to stay safe and have fun. They will be developing games skills using balls, ropes and small apparatus. The children will also continue to practice using scissors, pencils and other tools with increasing precision. They will be encouraged to think about the importance of keeping healthy and the things that contribute to a healthy lifestyle.

Literacy

This term, the children will have opportunities for creative and factual writing. They will begin to complete more frequent independent writing challenges, building on the early literacy skills they have already developed. In daily phonics sessions, they will continue to learn to blend and segment sounds for reading and writing, with a greater focus on two syllable words. By the end of the year, children will be expected to be able to read and write the Reception high frequency words so we will continue to build on our recognition of these words.

Mathematics

The children will be encouraged to solve their own doubling, halving and sharing problems and apply their knowledge of maths in practical situations. They will continue to work on ordering numbers to 20 and counting on and back. We will be introducing number patterns with a focus on counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. Now that the weather has warmed, the children will have the opportunity to explore the concept of capacity, measuring using different containers in the water tray.

Understanding the World

Both classes will have the opportunity to observe the lifecycle of a butterfly as we grow and raise live caterpillars in the classroom. The children will explore habitats around the world and learn about where animals live. Towards the end of the half-term will be visiting Tilgate Park Nature Centre (17th May 2018) where the children will have the opportunity to interact with different animals.

We will also begin formal computing lessons this term, visiting the computer suite each week to develop our technology skills.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be developing their skills in drawing and creating using different materials and media. They will be exploring musical sounds and rhythms and learning new songs. They will also be encouraged to use imaginative ideas in role-play, both inside and outdoors.

Please remember on hot days to provide your child with a named sun hat and to put sun cream on your child in the morning. If you would like your child to apply sun cream during the day, you may provide sun cream with your child's name on (this will be kept in the classroom). You will need to show them how to do this themselves.

Thank you for continuing to support your child's reading skills and phonics homework. Please continue to support your child in learning to read the Reception High Frequency Words and help them to practise writing them independently.

Websites that you may find useful:

<http://www.Busythings.lgfl.org>.

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Early-Years.html>

<http://activityvillage.co.uk/farm-animals>

Key Diary Dates:

Monday 7th May - Bank holiday

Thursday 17th May - School trip to Tilgate Park

Thursday 24th May - Reception Stay and Play

Miss Perrin and Miss Nice

