



## Summer 2 Half Term Information for Parents Reception

Happy children aiming high

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We have such a busy exciting half term ahead! This information sheet tells you a little about our Early Years setting and about the theme being followed for this half term. We hope that you find it useful.

**Theme:** Summer 2-MiniBeasts

### **Continuous Provision in the Early Years**

Continuous provision covers the areas that are available to children most of the time.

#### **Construction area-inside and out**

Here children have a variety of large and small building toys such as large foam bricks, wooden blocks and Duplo. This area is always popular with some very creative and imaginative models and buildings being built. Teamwork is encouraged and naturally lots of interaction between peers occurs as well as some great language development. Clipboards and paper are often available, so children can draw their models. Half termly enhancements-building a bug hotel, beehive, long and short caterpillars, symmetrical patterns

#### **Small World area**

In this area children can use resources such as trains or farm animals to create their own games and role play. Half termly enhancements-mini beast small worlds, natural resources to encourage play, stick puppets from stories read

#### **Home Corner/house outside**

This is always a busy area where children act out experiences they have had or seen such as washing up, helping with the baking or laying the table for a meal, we even had 2 children planning a camping trip! As with all areas of Early Years imagination, creativity and Communication and language are developed in this area. Half termly enhancements-food from the hungry caterpillar story, picnic and BBQ resources

#### **Sensory area**

In this area children are provided with different materials or objects to explore. We also have a light table for children to use. Half termly enhancements-natural resources, honeycomb pasta, pasta bees, pom pom bees

#### **Water area**

Children have access to a range of containers and tools to explore in the water tray. Here children can begin to understand capacity and the language of capacity such as full, half full and empty as well as making up their own imaginative games. Half termly enhancements- outside tunnels and pipes to make cascades and water structures

#### **Dough table**

Dough is a great resource to help develop children's fine motor skills and hand strength to later support writing. This term we will continue weekly Dough Disco sessions to further develop co-ordination and the muscles in children's hands and arms. Half termly enhancements-themed dough mats to encourage imagination. Resources to make mini beasts.

#### **Book area**

Stories are read to children daily. In the book area children might choose to look at a book on their own or with a friend. Children are encouraged to hold a book correctly and begin to discuss books-characters,

events, what might happen next. Half termly enhancements-mini beast stories

### **Writing area**

A very popular area! Children have access to a variety of writing tools and equipment including clip boards, whiteboards and paper. Half termly enhancements-Diaries based on Hungry Caterpillar, shopping lists, non fiction information lists, mini books to re tell stories read

### **Maths area**

Children are provided with a variety of resources for number, sorting, counting, practical addition and subtraction, measuring and shape activities. This half term we will continue to learn about shapes both 2D and 3D. We will explore weight and compare the weight of objects. Our counting skills are developing, and we will continue seeing how far we can count and which numbers we recognise. When children are ready, they will take part in activities to count in 2's and 10's. We will explore doubles and halves. When exploring time we will learn about the months of the year and how to tell the time on a clock.

**Read Write Inc-** All children will participate in Read Write Inc activities, the phonics scheme we use within school. Children will work at different levels-learning the Read Write Inc Pictures, letter sounds, using the letter sounds in their writing, using their knowledge of sounds to read words and sentences.

**Our books this half term:** The Greedy Bee, The Hungry Caterpillar, I love Bugs, What the Ladybird heard, The Grumpy Ladybird

**Our theme this half term-**Minibeasts-We will read books based on mini beasts-fiction and non fiction. We will learn about the importance of looking after minibeasts and find out about minibeast habitats. We will go on mini beast hunts! We will find out about bees, plant bee friendly flowers, find out how bees make their beehives and honey. We will watch caterpillars change into butterflies, When exploring minibeasts we will learn about doubles, halves, symmetry and patterns,

### **How can you help?**

- Ensure your child is in school on time and ready to learn
- We always enjoy hearing about your child's achievements, big and small! Trying a new food, climbing to the top of the slide in the park, sleeping all night in their own bed....
- We are really enjoying the observations that you are putting onto Tapestry. We look at these with the children and share them with the class. Please keep up the good work!
- We are collecting bottle tops to help us with our maths and sorting activities. Please bring in any bottle tops to help us build up a collection to support our maths and sensory play

### **Class Reminders**

Please remember to name water bottles and sun hats