

Learning at Home

This half term in phonics we will be continuing to segment words and write them and begin to develop ability to write sentences. Children will learn some new sounds including the diagraphs below:

ow, ar, oy, ure, ear, ire, a-e, o-e

Please continue to practise reading and writing "tricky words" at home. This will help to increase reading fluency as they are not words that can be decoded and must be learnt by heart:

the, go, into, to, no, I, she, he, we, be, me, you, was, are, all, they, were, said, of

Look out for new lists of words which are put into children's book bags weekly. Please practise reading and spelling these word every day.

Please may we remind you to send in book bags every day. Please also take time to read with your child for a few minutes every day, as this helps to develop strong confident reading skills. Help your child learn to love books and reading by snuggling up at the end of the day for a bedtime story.

You could support your child's mathematical understanding by finding lots of opportunities to add groups of objects together like tins in shopping trolleys, socks in drawers or books on shelves.

It would be helpful to your child to discuss the days of the week and things that happen on certain days. You could talk about routines at certain times of the day such as midday and evening.

We thank you for sending us messages and photographs of children's experiences at home. This evidence really does help us to build up a picture of what children can do and what we need to teach them next. 📷

As always, our door is always open if you have any questions or concerns.

Learning in Reception



Why don't snakes have legs?

Learning in Early Years

This half term, we will be observing and describing a variety of animals and discussing their features and habits. Zoolab will come to visit us in school and children will have the opportunity to handle some of the animals in a safe environment. We will also have a big focus on the life cycle of the caterpillar, caring for our own caterpillars in class. The children will have the opportunity to meet some of the teacher's pets this half-term. Children will spend time talking about their pets at home, so it would be really useful if parents could send in photographs of children's pets using Class Dojo.

Learning in Literacy

Speaking and Listening

Children will develop their language by talking about and describing different animals we have observed this term from pets at home to animals whose habitats are further afield. We will introduce terms we use to categorise animals e.g. mammal, reptiles and amphibians.

Reading

We will continue with our shared and guided reading sessions, and reading in phonics sessions. We also will read the Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle and Our Very Own Dog by Amanda McCardie as well as lot of non-fiction books and fact files about animals.

Writing

Children will continue to develop spelling and segmenting of words using further diagraphs, such as ay, igh, ou, air, ure. Children will be encouraged to write short sentences using the sounds they know.

We will be writing descriptions of animals, menus, posters, guidebooks, diary entries and captions for photographs.

Understanding of the World

We will spend lots of time in our nature garden to look for the first signs of Spring and to hunt for minibeasts. We will also look at the life-cycle of a caterpillar and observe their transformation into butterflies.

We will be developing our creative skills by using recyclable materials to paint with and create junk art. We will create masks using a range of materials and continue to develop our scissor work. We also decorate rocks for our Nature Garden.



*A person with a generous heart and compassion
FOR ALL BEINGS... leads a blessed life
- Master Cheng Yen*

Learning outdoors

We will be using the outdoor learning environment to investigate the animal and critter life in our school. We will observe bugs in the Nature Garden, construct our own bug hotel and take turns to feed the fish in our fish pond. The children will also be tasked with transforming our Nature Garden, and after much weeding and planting of new flowers, we hope to get it looking splendid for the summer.

Learning in Maths

Number

We will consolidate our counting to 20 this term and then focus heavily on basic addition and subtraction. Children will count the amount of objects and pictures in two groups to find totals and solve practical problems involving taking items away.

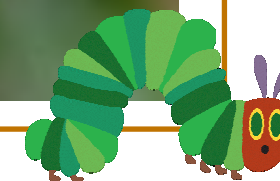
Shape, Space and Measure

We will use the knowledge we have acquired about 2D and 3D shapes to create repeating patterns, and develop the language related time, ordering and measuring short periods of time in simple ways.

Role play and small world

We will be transforming our role play areas to resemble veterinary surgeries and use our imaginations to enact the job of a vet, discussing ways of caring for animals. In small world areas, we will allow children to explore and play with farmyard and jungle animals, promoting talk about their habitats and character features.

What in the world is this?



Points to remember

Please encourage children to engage in games and activities with others in which they practise turn taking and sharing,

If you have any pets please take photographs and share them with us as these can be used to promote discussion and writing opportunities.

Read stories to your child every day. Look at the pictures and talk about them, to help develop language skills.