



29th April 2019

Dear Parents

We are now entering into the Summer term and have started our new topic of 'Minibeasts and in the Garden.' We are looking forward to being able to spend more time outdoors as the weather continues to become warmer. We will be planting seeds outside and doing lots of gardening jobs in our outdoor area and in the school garden. We will be going outside on mini beast hunts and creating habitats for those that we find. We will be enjoying some well-known stories about insects and bugs, some of which are noted on our planning. The Nursery and Reception children will be visiting a morning workshop on 'Butterflies' at Tullie House in Carlisle on Thursday May 23rd.

Many of our planned activities will be promoted through hands on practical activities. We will also be following the childrens' interests that develop as we cover this topic area.

If your child is in Reception they will be getting ready for transition into Year 1 throughout this Summer term, and there will be some visits to Class 2 planned to enable the children to spend time with their new teacher. If your child is in Nursery and due to start school full time in September we will be inviting you to a meeting in July to share more information. We will send you details about this nearer the time.

P.E. will continue to take place on Tuesday with athletics and multi skills and on Thursday afternoons where the reception children will be visiting Eden Rock. Please ensure that your child has their **full P.E. kit** in school. This should be in a named drawstring bag and include a pair of navy or black shorts and a white t-shirt. Suitable outdoor footwear such as plimsolls or trainers (with velcro fastenings) will be required for outdoor games. A pair of jogging trousers and a sweatshirt should also be included as we do try to get outside if we can. As with all other school uniform, P.E. kits must be clearly named.

Please can you ensure that your child has a waterproof coat and a pair of Wellington boots in school. These can be left on their pegs so the children can use them when needed. We do have access to outdoor play on a daily basis and this is an essential part of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Reading and Homework

Your child participates in the 'Letters and Sounds' phonics programme on a daily basis and they will be blending and segmenting sounds together to read words. Please continue to practise the letter sounds and key words we send home with your child's reading books. Use the letters to make simple 3 letter (CVC) words, for example, mat, tap, tip, pen. Reception children are now learning trickier digraphs (2 letters but one sound) such as 'ch,' 'sh' and 'ng' as part of phase 3. Reading books will be changed twice a week and please do bring your child's reading books into school each day. Re-reading of some books should be encouraged to help develop familiarity and confidence. Please feel free to comment on your child's progress and their interest in the books they have read in the blue reading record book. Please record anything that you would like us to know about your child on the attached 'Wow' moments sheet, for example, learning to ride a bike, baking with you at home or counting to 20. Do let us know about the things your child enjoys doing with you out of school.

Your child can bring any objects or books that are of particular interest to them, especially things associated with our topic work. 'Show and Tell' sessions take place on a Friday which gives the children the opportunity to develop their speaking and listening skills.

We hope this information is of use to you. If you do have any questions or concerns at any time please do contact us at school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Grayson, Mrs Butler and Julie