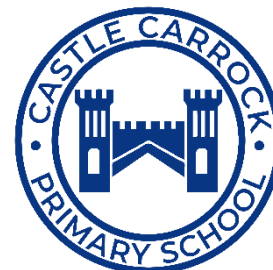


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Head of School Miss A. Carroll



Honeybee Class Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back and Happy New Year wishes to you all. We hope you enjoyed a relaxing and peaceful Christmas break.

Our topic this half term is People Who Help Us: The Police, Fire Service, Doctors and Nurses, Vets and others in the community who play a vital role in supporting us to live happy, healthy, productive lives. We will also be thinking of how we can help others and take a wider world view by finding out about Chinese New Year.

We will introduce the children to lots of books and stories, both fiction and non-fiction, to enrich their language and communication skills. These include the wonderful story of Burglar Bill, No Dragons for Tea, and The Great Race: The Story of the Chinese Zodiac. If you have any books related to our topic, then please share them at home with your child and encourage your child to bring them into school to share with us.

Our role play areas (indoors and outdoors) will enable the children to dress up and act out roles and characters from stories or re-enact emergency services roles. We are also in the process of arranging 'real life' experiences linked to the topic for the children; we will let you know more details when arrangements are confirmed. In the meantime, if you know of anyone currently working for any emergency service that may have time to come into school to talk to the children about their job/role and how they keep people (or animals) safe, please do let us know. The more experiences the children have, the better!

Just a quick reminder about uniform, please ensure your child comes to school in full school uniform, including school shoes (not trainers). PE days will continue to be Monday and Thursday however please ensure your child's PE kit is kept in school. As with all other school uniform, P.E. kits must also be clearly named. Please refer to our school website for further information - [Castle Carrock Primary School – A Cumbria Education Trust School](#).

Please ensure 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 daily outdoor play, and this is an essential part of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Reading and Homework

Your child participates in Little Wandle Phonics <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>. During their daily lessons reception children are blending and segmenting sounds together to read words. We will hear them read in a group three times a week as well as listen to them read individually. Each Wednesday, we will send home a Collins Big Cat phonics book (that we have practised in our group session) for them to read to you at home. The children will bring home 1-2 Dandelion phonics reading books to help them develop their reading further, these will be swapped once a week – more if necessary. The children will choose a library book to take home for the week which we hope you will share together. We will also send home a sheet outlining the new sounds we have been focussing on that week. Please can you continue to listen to your children read 5 times a week. The children will receive team points for reading at home. Please ensure you make a quick note in your child's Reading Record to let us know how they are getting on. Please bring reading books into school each day. Re-reading children's book is essential to help develop familiarity and confidence. Finally, please ensure all books belonging to school are returned promptly so that other children may benefit from them – thank you.

[Learning to Count with these fun Counting Games \(topmarks.co.uk\)](https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count-with-these-fun-counting-games) is a great resource to use to develop your child's basic number understanding.

Our Un-bee-lievable Achievers' Assembly will continue in the Spring term on a Friday at 3pm – it is great to see so many of you celebrate the children's achievements with us.

As always, if you have any questions or wish to discuss any matters or concerns we can always be reached in the first instance on Class Dojo or via email: acarroll@castlecarrock.cumbria.sch.uk jhelliwell@castlecarrock.cumbria.sch.uk we are also available on the gate in the morning or at the end of the day.

Kind Regards,

Miss Carroll, Mrs Helliwell and Mrs Doherty