



Warlingham Village Primary School

Reception Robins Class Newsletter



Summer Term 2017

Mrs Swallow and Mrs Price

We hope you all had a wonderful Easter holiday.

Themes/Topics

This half term the topic is called "Let's Grow!". In this topic we look at growing plants and visit the Garden Centre. We read stories like Jasper's Beanstalk and Titch. We then look at lifecycles of plants and caterpillars and have our own butterfly garden in the classroom. Minibeasts are another thing we look at and study, we develop our understanding of research and non-fiction texts. After half term the topic is called "Let's get going!" In this topic we visit a farm and look at animals, including wild animals, and babies and think about growing up. We encourage the children to become more independent learners and look towards the transition to Year 1.

We will discuss these topics with the children and use their ideas to shape the themes and the planning. As we go through the term, the planning will continue to be altered and developed according to the children's interests and needs.

Phonics and Handwriting

We are continuing to follow the "Letter and Sounds" Phonics programme, with each child participating in a phonics session on a daily basis. One day may focus on developing their reading and the other on developing their writing and handwriting skills. We use a carousel of differentiated activities to consolidate what has been taught in the whole class lessons.

Reading

Some children will continue to read, once a week, individually to an adult at school. Some children take part in a "Guided Reading" session. This is in preparation for Year 1 where the children read in a group situation and not individually. They will still benefit greatly from continuing to read regularly at home. When you read with your child, please could you make sure that you write in their yellow reading record as it helps us to keep track of their progress.

Mathematics

The key Maths focuses for this term are:

- Using the language associated with addition and subtraction in practical contexts
- Writing and answering addition and subtraction "number sentences"
- Doubling and halving
- Solving problems
- Number facts such as number bonds to 10 and doubles
- Money – recognising coins, paying for items and working out change.
- Time including sequencing days of the week and months of the year and using o'clock times
- Comparing and ordering objects according to height, weight and capacity.. In addition to these focuses, the children will continue to work on their own next step targets.

RE and Music

The focus this term in RE is "Our special world". Children think about the world about them and how to care for it. In music they will continue to develop a repertoire of songs with actions and rhythm.

ICT

The children use the ICT suite on a weekly basis but also have access to the classroom computer and interactive whiteboard at other times. In addition, they use a range of other technology including MP3 recorders, cameras, camcorders and tablets. This term we will continue to develop the children's keyboard skills to begin to word process a story and we will use the computer to support our learning in other areas.

Physical Development

Our PE sessions will continue on Tuesday afternoons and be led by a qualified sports coach. We also do Wake and Shake sessions every day. For this we use "Activate" which is a DVD of short exercise routines. This term we prepare the children for sports day so it is really important that the children have their PE kits in school every day.

Homework

Attached to this newsletter you will find a "Take Away Homework sheet". This is the homework system used in the rest of the school and we adopt it in the summer term to help the children with transitioning to Year 1. On the sheet there are some ideas of things to do with your child that fit with this term's topics. However, they are only ideas and you are more than welcome to take the homework in any direction you feel is suitable.

Transition into Year 1

During the course of this term we will be preparing the children for their move into Year 1. We will be spending some time in Year 1's classroom for story time and to become familiar with the new surroundings. This will include gradually introducing sessions where all children work at the same time. We will also carry out some activities with Year 1 so that the children become familiar with Year 1's routine,

Reminders

We would be very grateful if you could check that all of your child's school uniform, including shoes, and their PE kit are clearly named.

The children should bring a drinks bottle into the classroom each morning so that they have ready access to a drink throughout the day. It should be water rather than juice.

Now that the weather is getting hotter, it's a really good idea to send your child to school with a sunhat and some sun cream that they can apply themselves. The best option is to put a long lasting, high factor sun cream on in the morning before they get to school which should last all day.

Class Outings

We will be joining the rest of Key Stage 1 to visit Ladyland Farm to have a look at the animals and habitats to help us with our topics after half term. This trip takes place on Thursday 29th June 2017.

Any questions?

If you have any questions or need to speak to us about anything please do not hesitate in coming to see one of us.

