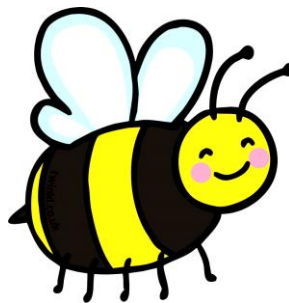


Minibeasts

Summer 1 2022

Welcome to this half terms Topic
Information letter for Oak &
Acorn Classes.

Miss Adams, Mrs Henderson,
Mrs Swordy & Miss Bell



Communication & Language

We will be learning through a core books approach and reading lots of our favourite stories. We will be learning our topic through core texts based on Minibeasts. We will be encouraging the children to tell us their favourites and join in with parts of stories. In the Unit the Role Play Area will be a kitchen/living room. We will also enhance this area with a garden centre. We will be encouraging the children to develop their vocabulary by using language from favourite stories we have shared in our story times and to use the role-play area to communicate freely with their peers. In the small world area, the children will be encouraged to re-tell the stories we have been learning, using props. Additionally, we will be providing the children with opportunities to contribute to conversations and discussions and encourage them to listen to others. In Oak class we will be learning stories through 'Talk for writing'.

Physical Development

The children will be accessing snack as a social activity during the course of the morning. We will be encouraging them to try a variety of fruit and vegetables and encouraging them to talk about their likes/dislikes. The children will also be building towers with blocks of differing sizes, trying hard to balance precisely.

In P.E. lessons, the children will be taking part in weekly 'Little Movers' sessions.

Oak children will also be having yoga and rugby sessions.

The children will have access to the outdoors each day where they will be able to use bikes and scooters, draw on the ground with chalk and use water and paintbrushes to make patterns.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

This half term, we will be working hard to embed the learnt routines within the unit and classrooms with the new starters. We want the children to develop strong relationships with the adults they are working with and their peers so they feel confident in their environment. The adults will be working alongside the children to model how to play in areas appropriately.

Linked to our topic work, we will develop the children's use of the role-play area to re-tell stories. We have lots of circle times to encourage turn taking, sharing and speaking and listening skills.

Literacy

We will be reading lots of our favorite stories and looking at non-fiction books about our topic. The children will be asked to consider which their favorite is and say why. We will also be encouraging the children to predict what will happen next and answer questions relating to stories.

All of the children will be developing their phonic skills through; listening to environmental sounds, as well as sounds in words. Oak children will be continuing with RWI phonics. Acorn children who are ready will start a small Nursery RWI session.

Within the unit, there will be lots of writing opportunities, from painting and drawing to writing in sand, and the children will be encouraged to make marks and give meanings to marks they make. They will be given lots of opportunities to write their names regularly both independently or with the help of name cards.

Understanding of the World

We will be looking at lifecycles and the conditions that minibeasts need to grow well. Observations will be made and changes which occur will be recorded. The children will get the chance to make healthy snacks and taste them.

Forest school will give us the chance to look more closely at minibeasts and their habitats. These observations will be recorded through drawings and paintings. The children will explore the forest and make nests and dens for the creatures there.

They will also have the opportunity to look for minibeasts in the early years garden. We will be learning all about the parts of a plant and planting our own flowers.

The children will have access to the Ipad's and chrome books to use websites and play games.

In R.E. our question will be 'What is Navaratri?'.

Maths

The adults will be working alongside the children to model and encourage use of mathematical language; they will talk with the children about the strategies they are using in their reasoning and problem solving. We will be doing this through lots of practical activities as well as teacher led groups. Children will learn to recite numbers to 10, say one number for each item in order, know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total and represent numbers to 5. We will be learning our 2D shapes, one more, one less and patterns.

We are implementing 'Subitising' where the children will develop fast recognition of up to 5 objects, without having to count them individually. In Oak the children will be learning number bonds to 10, 3D shapes and time.



Expressive Arts and Design

In our topic work we will be singing songs, playing instruments and encouraging the children to move to music.

We will encourage the children to develop their imagination through stories and use their ideas to paint and build models. We will be painting our favourite characters from stories and bug hotels for our Minibeasts.



Home Time

If you need to change the usual arrangements for picking up your child from school, please let school know as soon as possible. As you will understand we cannot allow children to leave the school premises unless we have permission from parents or carers.

Reminders

If the bell rings early due to inclement weather could all parents and carers of Acorns and Oak walk their children around to the early year's doors where they can enter their classroom. Please do not walk through school or come in through the main entrance unless you are late.

We would greatly appreciate a £5 donation each half term. This helps provide additional resources to make the children's early years experience fun and extend their learning.

Oak class will be bringing home sound packs containing the Read Write Inc letter sounds they have been learning. Oak children will also bring home a reading book which will be changed every Friday.

Helping at Home

Keep reading lots of stories with your child. Talk about what is happening in the story and look at the pictures. Talk about the characters in the story and what type of people they are. Oak children will be bringing home a reading book and a reading record to complete.

Keep singing Nursery Rhymes and number rhymes with your child - in the car, in the bath, walking to school etc. Try to sing a wide variety so the children have a good repertoire. Sing number rhymes like '5 Little Ducks...' and practise counting objects and recognising numbers when you are out and about - look for numbers on doors etc.

Have crayons pencils and pens in the house and encourage them to make marks and try and write their names.

Make sure children have good bedtime routine, bath, story and bed. Be consistent with your expectations and make sure the children know what they are and are not allowed to do. Praise them when they do the right thing and make sure they know when they have not-by reinforcing what you want them to do. Remember securing good routines now will make you and your child happy and able to enjoy your time together.

Thank you for your help and support.