

Reception Newsletter – Term 4

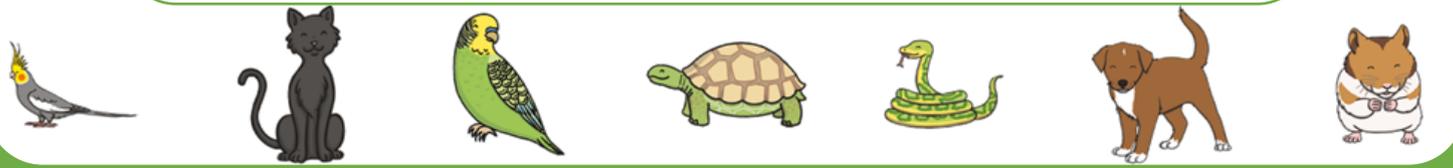
Dear Parents / Carers,

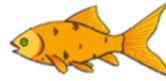
This term is full of seasonal events, and we have already launched into our learning with a look at the Rio Carnival, Shrove Tuesday, and House morning dances. Next week we look forward to celebrating St David's Day and World Book Day (the children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character on Thursday 5th March). Please remember that our walk to the Church for Teddy Prayers is on Wednesday 4th March – the children need to bring a packed lunch.

Our main topic this term will be animals, with our big question to explore: How do you care for animals? We are very excited about the chicks: in a few weeks we will have a special delivery of eggs in an incubator to watch them hatch and take care of them. Our year 6 buddies will be away for a week on their residential, so we will need to write chick diaries in order to tell our buddies about all of the chick developments while they are away. We are also looking forward to visitors helping us find out about vets and caring for dogs. We will be looking at the Bible story Noah's Ark, and we will be learning about reading simple instructions. Photos of caring for pets, or visits to see animals, would make for a super Show and Tell this term!

In maths we will continue to work on understanding that a teen number such as 14 is the same as a ten and four ones. We will link this to our daily role play 'snack shop', as the children practise buying fruit with pretend 1p, £1 and 10p coins. Next we will practise counting and if confident, we will begin to group animals in pairs as part of our Noah's Ark learning. We will also keep practising our number bonds, properties of shape, estimation, weight and capacity. Towards the end of the term, we will focus on solving problems with our number bonds, e.g. if three of the ten eggs have hatched, how many are left?

This term in phonics we will be working on filling any gaps in the children's knowledge of Set 2 sounds. They will also work on building their confidence and fluency, in reading and writing their sounds and red words (non-decodable words e.g. I, the, to, of, no, said, my, me, we, she, put). We will keep working on reading and re-reading texts fluently and confidently, using 'storyteller' voices where we 'Fred in our head' instead of sounding out every word aloud. We will continue to discuss the texts and build up our understanding of what we are reading. Encourage your child to tell you what has happened in the story, how the characters are feeling, and what might happen next. Please continue to read to your child as well, to develop their love of reading: you are welcome to borrow library books to enjoy at home.

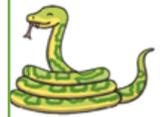




In PE, we will continue to focus on gymnastic skills inside, while our outdoor learning (weather permitting) will focus on rolling, patting and throwing bean bags and balls with increasing control. This is in addition to our daily mile, outdoor learning and indoor fine motor skills activities that also help our physical development.



In RE, as well as touching on Lent and Noah's Ark, we will also find out more about Christianity and Easter, as we will be finding out about the importance of the cross. In PSHE, we will keep reinforcing our learning about different emotions and how to be kind to others: each day we try to 'fill a bucket' to show when we have made others happy. We also have our PSHE topic 'Healthy Me', which explores our healthy eating, exercise, sleep and hygiene choices and how to keep ourselves safe.



Key Dates this term:

Teddy Prayers (bring packed lunches) – 4th March

World Book Day (dress up as a book character) – 5th March

Class Assembly 26th March – all welcome to watch our assembly in the hall at 9:10, followed by a chance to see our learning in the classroom until approximately 10am.

Parents Evenings – 30th March / 1st April



Requests - Please keep bringing in your items for our junk modelling and concoctions kitchen areas (e.g. cardboard boxes, tubes, petals) as the children love playing with them. We would also really appreciate the following: children's cooking aprons, a simple CD player, and wood offcuts (for adults to make signs for our outdoor area).



Volunteering – a huge thank you to all the helpers who come in to support with readers, maths and trips. All offers to help are most appreciated.



Lost property – please make sure name labels haven't washed out of your child's clothes and water bottles, and keep your child's spare clothes bags topped up.



Evidence Me – thank you all for the excellent observations you have been sending in. Parent/carer inputs are an important part of the Early Years Foundation Stage: if you would prefer to give us paper notes of Wow moments from home, or emails via the office, those are fine too!



As always, please don't hesitate to come and talk to us – you can make an appointment via the office, or see us at the start of the day or straight after the children have been collected at home time.



Mrs Bennett, Mrs Wing and Mrs Keen

