

Welcome back after the Christmas break. Our topic for the first half term will be 'People who help us' and we have planned lots of fun activities for the children to enjoy. We have lots of visitors coming into school this half term to talk about their jobs. Ask your children about these visits, they would love to talk about this with you. If any parents want to share what they do as a job with the children please contact your class teacher. After half term, we will be learning about 'Growing and mini-beasts'.

Foundation Staff

Ladybird Class

Mr S Horton (Class Teacher)

Mrs S Cattigan (Teaching Assistant)

Honeybee class

Miss H Sharpe (Class Teacher)

Ms Fitzpatrick (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)

Support Staff

Miss Lola

Miss Beecroft

Mrs Joyce



Miss Sharpe is the Foundation stage leader. If you have any problems or questions, please do not hesitate to come and see her.

Reading

Please can you keep reading with your child **every night** and make a comment in their reading record book. Your child needs to bring their book bag with them every day so we can also hear them read and change their book when necessary.

Please also practise reading their sound sheets with them.

Winter Weather

As the weather gets colder please can we ask that children bring hats, scarves and gloves with a suitable coat to school. The children have the choice all day whether to play inside or outside so it is important that they have the correct clothing. As it is still wet they can also bring in Wellington Boots to change into to go outside.

Lunches

We are a Healthy Eating school. We will provide water at lunchtimes for the children to drink. Squash or fizzy drinks are **not** permitted. All children in Foundation can have a free school dinner. We would love it if everyone did this. There is a wide choice including a packed lunch—so save yourself a bit of money and fill in a menu!

Water Bottles

Please can you ensure your child has a water bottle at school. The children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day and have independent access to the water bottles as and when the children wish. A friendly reminder only water is permitted. Squash or fizzy drinks are **not** permitted.

P.E. Kits

Children in Foundation all need P.E. kits. They need black shorts, a red t-shirt and trainers. These can be bought from reception and all need to come named. Please make sure they are in school on Mondays and taken home to wash on Fridays. Thank you.

Donations Needed:

Please could we have donations of recycled materials such as cereal boxes, kitchen rolls and other boxes. The children love to build and create with these items and we can't keep up with the demand!

Our Curriculum

Reading and Writing

This half term we will be blending our sounds to read and write words and short sentences. We will also be looking for children to begin to read some of the most common words rapidly. We will also be looking at how to spell and read 'Red words' which are words children cannot sound out such as 'I', 'the', 'he', and 'she'.

Maths

The children will be learning to recognise their 2D and 3D shapes. They will look at the composition of numbers to see how a number is made and begin to know some of these number bonds by rote.

Understanding of the world

This half term we will be looking at the 'People who Help Us' and what we would like to be when we are older. When the warmer weather hits we will be looking at growing our own plants and searching for Mini-Beasts in different habitats.

P.E

The children have PE twice a week which is taught by Mr Lands or Miss Stubbs. They will be taught a range of skills in the sports hall during the colder weather. Please ensure their P.E kit is brought to school Monday and taken home Friday.

Music

In music the children will be taught by Mr McCarthy and he will teach them to listen to, sing, perform and dance along to a range of music. He will give them opportunities to play musical instruments and experiment with the different sounds they can make.

Personal Social and Emotional

This half term we will be talking about ourselves and our feelings. What we are good at and what we would like to be better at and set goals for ourselves.

We will be also consolidate our knowledge of the zones of regulation. This will help children recognise their own feelings and what they can do when they feel that way.

How you can help at home:

Reading

Please can you keep reading with your child every night and make a comment in their reading record book. Make sure they are bringing their book bag with them every day so we can also hear them read and change their book.

Writing

We will soon be sending home our letter formation chart. Please practise writing some of the sounds with them. Also practise writing their name using the sound chart to help them. Children are also working on accurately spelling CVC words by listening to the sounds in the words. You can practise at home with the Read, Write Inc words we sent home earlier in the year.

Maths

Practise counting and recognising numbers to 10 and looking at the composition of numbers to 5, trying to find different ways of making numbers. Also you could practise the 2D shapes 'Square, circle, triangle and Square.

P.E. Kits

Children in Foundation all need clearly named P.E. kits. They need black shorts and a red t-shirt. These can be purchased from the local shops. Please make sure they are in school on Mondays and taken home to wash on Fridays.

Key dates

Dates for your diary, more details will be sent closer to the time.

Monday 27th January - Friday 31st January—Book Week. The Book Fair will arrive this week.

Tuesday 28th January— Story evening

Friday 31st February —Book Dress up Day

Monday 10th February—Friday 14th February—Internet Safety week.

Thursday 13th February—Parents internet Safety Quiz night.

Friday 14th February— Break up

Monday 24th February— Back to school.

Monday 3rd—Friday 7th March—Cultural similarities week.

Wednesday 26th & Thursday 27th March—Parents Evening

Friday 4th April- Easter Fair Fayre

Friday 4th April —Break up for Easter Holiday

Monday 22nd April— Back to school.