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Executive Principal: Mrs M.E. McCarthy MA; Ed.M

## **Reception Newsletter** **W/C 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Dear Reception Families,

Thank you for attending the parent consultation meetings last week, it was a wonderful opportunity to discuss your child's learning and friendships. Last week the children enjoyed learning about the lifecycle of a butterfly. The children were excited to create actions for the star words of the week including stomach-ache, nibbled and cocoon. In Maths the children liked investigating different ways to make 5, 6 and 7 using a part-whole model to support.

### **Reading**

We are so impressed with the children's reading! We can tell that there has been lots of reading practice going on at home during the half term. Even a few pages a day makes a difference! This half term we will be recapping the Phase 2 and Phase 3 sounds and going over the tricky words. Please keep up the frequent reading at home, complete the weekly phonics homework sheet and leave the reading packs in the school book bags.

### **Learning**

Our topic this half term is 'Growing and Changing'. Through this topic, we will be exploring life cycles of various animals and how to care for plants. As we transition to Spring, we hope to spend more of our focused learning time outdoors and will also spend some time at Forest School. As always, our learning is influenced by the children's interests and so planned activities may change from time to time.

### **Communication, Language & Literacy:**

This week we will include the following in our learning:

- Read and share 'Yucky Worms' by Vivian French
- Introduce key words related to the book: horrified, vanish, grit, rotting, grind, dangerous, mole and vibrations.
- Continue to practise sounding out CVC, CVCC and CCVC words when reading and writing.

### **Maths:**

- This week we will recap counting to and from 20, starting from different numbers and identifying one more and one less
- We will discuss the different ways that we can make 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 using the part whole model to support.
- Maths meetings – The children will compare numbers using the key terminology 'more than', 'fewer than' and 'equal to'.



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**Other Areas of Learning:**

- PSHE: We will begin our new Jigsaw PSHE unit 'Healthy Me'. This week we will look at what a healthy balanced diet is. We will discuss the benefits of moving and resting our bodies.
- Understanding the World: We will be learning about the life cycle of a worm.
- Arts: Leaf art
- P.E: This term our focus will be on developing a wide range of ball skills – rolling, throwing, catching, kicking, dribbling, passing

**Notices/Reminders:**

- Please look out for a list of tricky words in your child's book bag. We will send these home on Monday. The children will need to learn these words by the end of Reception.
- As the weather (hopefully!) starts to warm up over the next half term, please do check again that each item of your child's uniform is labelled clearly as jumpers and cardigans are taken on and off more frequently. At this point in the year we are really trying to promote independence and encourage the children to take care and responsibility for their belongings. It is much easier to reunite lost clothing items with children when they are named!
- Thank you for all of your donations to our classes this year. If you have any crafting materials at home including stickers, pipe cleaners, lolly sticks or junk modelling (yogurt pots, egg cartons, washed out milk bottles, cardboard toilet roll tubes) please send them in! Many thanks in advance.

Please do not hesitate to email or call the school if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,  
Mrs Morley, Miss Glaves and Mrs Bright