



# Curriculum Newsletter

## Foundation Unit

Hello! We hope you've all had a Egg-celent Easter break! The children have created some amazing mini beasts and shared their Easter holiday news! This half term our topic is called '**A Bug's Life**'. We will be investigating different mini beasts both inside and outside the classroom and we will be focusing our learning around a range of Eric Carle books including '**The Very Hungry Caterpillar**' and '**The Bad Tempered Ladybird**'. All areas of learning are taught through stimulating and exciting practical activities and play, linking to our topic. Below are some of the things we will be learning about in the 7 areas of our curriculum:

**Learning Opportunities in the Early Years Foundation Stage this half term are:**

**PRIME AREAS:**

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** - Much of this will be taught through day to day classroom practice and circle time. We will focus on talking about how to work together to plan and achieve activities, resolve minor disagreements through listening to each other to come up with a fair solution and support the children to be able to talk about things they enjoy, like and things they do not find easy.

**Physical Development** - Both Foundation 1 and 2 will be practicing their ball skills - this will include kicking, throwing, catching and controlling a ball. Please note we are hoping to do more PE outside now that the weather is picking up. **Please can you provide your child both F1 and F2 with a pair of outdoor shoes (trainers)**

In class we will also be developing our fine motor skills by using small equipment such as scissors, pincers and play dough tools purposely. We will be busy mark making developing of art skills, making models and painting, threading and sewing!

**Communication and Language** - There will be lots of opportunities to develop our speaking & listening skills through literacy, role play, circle times and play. We will be focusing on listening to others, responding appropriately and asking questions. As well as, being able to speak confidently in front of others about a visit or event. Foundation 2 children will also be trying to extend their language by using imaginative words to add information.

**SPECIFIC AREAS:**

**Literacy (reading and writing)** - In Foundation 2, as well as the daily Read, Write, Inc sessions we will be focusing on being able to hold our own simple sentence and writing it independently, hearing and writing all sounds within a word and transferring our RWI knowledge into our writing. Some children will continue to practice using some super connectives, openers and describing words to make their sentences more exciting, as well as trying to use their imagination to write stories of their own. We are also focusing on always including capital letters and full stops as now trying to spell tricky words correctly.

In Foundation 1, some children will continue with Read, Write Inc and others will be focusing on the letter of the week and hearing and writing initial sounds in words. The children may bring in an object beginning with that letter and we will learn how to say the sound, write the sound and look at different things that begin with that sound. In our writing and mark making we will be focusing on the story The very hungry caterpillar where we will suggest how the story may end, we will look at the life cycle of a butterfly, We will focus on rhyming and alliterations, design and label our very own mini beast and look at the life cycle of a frog! As well as all this we will continue to write our name and hear and write the sounds we can hear in CVC words.

**Mathematics** - In F2 we will continue to practise our number recognition and formation as well as counting backwards and in 2's, 5's and 10's. We will also be learning to half, double and add numbers this half term.

In F1 We will continue to practise our number recognition and formation as well as looking at 1 more/1 less, the vocabulary involved in adding and taking away, estimating, time and money (What a very busy half term!)

**Understanding the World** - In both F1 and F2, the children will be discussing similarities and differences in relation to living things, making observations of living things and learning how to show care and concern for living things in the environment. In f2 we will make a mini beast hotel and look at habitats and how they are different from other houses.

Also in F2, we will also be comparing the habitat of minibeasts and talking about how their environment may be affected by humans.

In F1 in ICT we will be learning about how to navigate around a computer, how to use a mouse and how to control when selecting tools on a paint program to paint a simple picture.

**Expressive Arts and Design** - Within this area in both F1 and F2 we will create symmetrical butterflies, make our own mini beast hotels, use clay to create snails, make sock mini beasts and a large scale caterpillar collage. As well as independently using the creative trolley and painting easel. We will use instruments to play in time to songs about mini beasts, and bake and taste many delicious treats!

#### Ways to help your child:

- Encourage your child to be **independent** - Putting their own coat on getting dressed for PE and putting their own belongings in their drawer.
- Encourage your child every morning to find their name and write their name on their own name card (F1)
- Practise writing their name at home in fun ways - foam bath letters, magnetic letters, using a paintbrush and water, chalk outside etc,
- Encourage your child to listen carefully, speak clearly, follow instructions accurately;
- Spend time together sharing books (3 times a week) you could: discuss the pictures, model how to hold a book, turn the pages, count the words on the page, look for any sounds they recognise. Remember to record it in your child's home-school reading diary. Every week that your child reads at **least 3** times they will be moved up on the 'Racing Readers' and receive a prize after 8 weeks!
- Look for numbers, letters and words in the environment - model reading signs and words;
- Practise letter sounds and counting.
- In the achievement basket record your child's achievements so that we can celebrate and share them at school;
- In your child's Home Learning book, look for home learning tasks and complete them together - encouraging your child to do as much as possible by themselves. Home learning will be sent out every other Friday and needs to be returned by the following Friday.

#### Just a reminder:

- Please bring your child's book bag with their home-school diary **everyday**. If your child does not bring their book bag they may miss their reading day and books **will not** get changed.
- Mrs Troth (Charlie's mum) has very kindly offered to bake with a group of children every **Wednesday**. We ask for a contribution of **50p per week** to help buy the ingredients.
- **Snack bar is every Thursday. Toast 25p and the new choice will be plain brioche 35p.**
- Please ensure **ALL** items of clothing, bags and shoes have your child's name clearly marked. Then any lost items can be returned quickly to their rightful owner.

### Donations

- **We would really like some crates or wooden palettes for building in the outdoor area but are finding them tricky to get our hands on. Please donate if you have any hanging around!**
- Buttons, bottle tops, magazines, old birthday cards.
- New drainpipes, old blankets or bed covers, bread or milk crates we would love to use to build dens and use in our outdoor area.
- Spare clothes - We are always very grateful for any old uniforms, socks, underwear which no longer fit your children. Please if your child does come home in spare clothes can you return them asap!

### A quick note:

As the weather is becoming a little more pleasant we are trying to spend more time outside. However, the ground is still very wet and we would like to ask for each child to bring a pair of wellies to school that can be left on their peg. Please ensure these have your child's name in and are in a bag. On sunny days please apply sun cream before coming to school, Members of staff can only apply sun cream to a child if they have their own sun cream (labeled clearly with their name) and if written consent has been given. Thank you.

**Website:** <http://www.woodsettsprimary.co.uk/>

On here you can find updates, lunchtime menus, diary dates and other important information.

We would like to thank you all for your continued support. If there is ever anything you want to discuss however big or small our doors are always open!

If you would like to contact a member of the Unit:

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