

Foundation Stage Newsletter

Summer Term 2019

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Summer Term! We hope you had a lovely Easter holiday with your children. During the first half of the Summer Term, our theme is 'Superheroes' with activities based on various books including 'Super Daisy' by Kes Gray. After half term, our theme will change to 'At the Seaside'.

In Phonics, we are continuing to revisit and apply all of the sounds we have learnt and read and write tricky words and high frequency words. Please support your child using the Phonics leaflets that we have sent home. Now the children are beginning to write more independently we have been encouraging them to remember finger spaces between words and modelling starting a sentence with a capital letter and ending with a full stop. Literacy will be focused around our themes and story writing. We will be setting up role-play areas to develop an interest in creating and writing stories encouraging children to use features of story writing and vocabulary that is more adventurous. Weekly guided reading sessions will continue and individual reading books will be changed twice a week. Please remember it is very important for children to read and re-read their reading books at home to consolidate the phonics and Literacy work we do in school.

In Mathematics, we continue to focus on recognising numbers to 20, and simple addition and subtraction within 10. We will continue working on one more and one less than numbers to 20. We will continue learning about 3D/solid shapes and the children will learn to name and describe them. Over the term, we will introduce the concepts of doubling, halving and sharing using objects and counting in twos, fives and tens. Please read your weekly newsletters where we will give notice of what we are covering, how we are teaching it and the vocabulary we are using so you are equipped to support your child at home! Now the children are grasping concepts and becoming more confident, we are doing much more recording and so any practise of number formation would be great!

In Understanding the World, we will be spending lots of time outside in our own area and the environmental area where the children will explore using their senses. We will learn about woodland and seaside habitats. We will be continuing with Outdoor Learning day every Friday so please ensure children come to school in their own clothes, dressed appropriately for the weather and please continue to bring named wellies in a bag. As part of the Technology strand, we will be using the iPads in a variety of ways across the curriculum including selecting and using appropriate apps and taking photos and videos. We will also be learning to use programmable toys called BeeBots.

In Personal, Social and Emotional Development circle times will continue with the focus being 'Relationships' and 'Changes' where we will reflect on our year and support the children with the Transition to Year 1.

We will also be providing many opportunities for the children to experience a variety of tools and materials and express their creativity through role-play, art, music and dance.

Your children will continue to have a range of opportunities to develop ball skills, balance and coordination through our PE sessions and access to a range of resources in our outdoor area. This term Ms Betty (from the South Dartmoor Schools Partnership team), Mrs Lanigan and Mrs Haywood will continue to teach indoor and outdoor P.E on a Tuesday afternoon.

Starting after half term your children will be having swimming lessons at school. More information about this will follow. We will need volunteers to help with swimming sessions both in and out of the pool. Although the day for our swimming session has not yet been confirmed, if you think you would be able to help, we would urge you to arrange a DBS check via the office as soon as possible so it is in place for after half term.

Donations for Café time are gratefully received. The suggested contribution is 50p a week, £3 per half term or £6 for the whole term

As the weather continues to improve, please ensure your child has a sunhat and adequate sun protection. Long lasting sun cream applied before school is recommended; but if you do wish to send sun cream into school it will need to be labelled and your child must be able to apply it themselves. If you prefer to apply it yourself, you are welcome to come in at lunchtimes to apply it to your child. Extra drinks may also be needed on very hot days.

Please come and see us if you have any queries about this newsletter. It will be a busy but hopefully very enjoyable term.

Thank you for your continued support

Alison Cherry, Christina Haywood, Sarah Preece and the Foundation Stage Team.