



## Year R Topic Letter - Summer 1 2018

16<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a good Easter break with your families and are refreshed for another exciting half term. We can't believe we only have one term left in Year R!

Our topic this half term is **Amazing Animals** and the main EYFS focus is - Understanding of the World, Communication and Language, Literacy and Expressive Arts and Design. The other areas of the EYFS curriculum will continue to be covered through Discover & Do (D&D), Mathematics, P.E, different learning experiences, workshops, visitors and group work.

You can continue to help your child's learning at home by supporting with their homework, practising writing sentences, researching favourite animals, sharing the care of any household pets and of course talking about what they are doing in school.

### Tapestry - Learning Journeys

We love reading about what your children have been up to outside school. We can also use observations that you make to support our judgements about your child's progress towards the Early Learning Goals.

### Amazing Animals




The half term will be split roughly into two themes but we will also be guided by the children's interests.

#### **Caterpillars / Butterfly Lifecycles and Bees**

The children will be learning about the life-cycle of a butterfly. We will have caterpillars in our classroom which will hopefully turn into butterflies, which we will release! We will also be learning about how important bees are. We will be using the classic text 'The Hungry Caterpillar' to support reading, writing and maths. We have planned a visit to Cumberland House museum and Butterfly House on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May. We will need parent / grandparent helpers to make this trip possible so please let your child's teacher know if you can come - no younger siblings - sorry.

#### **On the farm**



We will be learning about farm animals and hatching some chicks in the classroom! We will be collecting the eggs from a free range farm near Winchester. The chicks will also be returned there afterwards. If you have any



questions about this please ask Mrs Scott as she is an expert! We will be using Julia Donaldson's 'A squash and a squeeze' to support literacy - rhyme, reading and writing, as well as for simple calculations.





### Writing Workshop



Quite a few parents asked questions about their child's writing development at parents evening. We will be holding a writing workshop for you and your child to attend on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 2pm in the school hall. You will be receiving an invitation for this from your child!





### Animal Parade



On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm come and join us as we will be having an 'Animal Parade' with Brambles Pre-School. Please can your child come to school dressed as an animal of their choice.



### P.E



We will soon be preparing for sports day and having P.E outside so please ensure your child has a pair of named plimsoles in school.





### URGENT!



**IF YOUR CHILD HAS AN ANIMAL RELATED ALLERGY PLEASE INFORM US ASAP!**



### Topic support





If you, a friend or family member have an interesting pet or an animal related job e.g.:- farmer, animal rescue worker or vet etc and would be willing to come and talk about it please let a member of the Early Years staff know. **Many**



**Thanks!**



### Pet photos





If you have a pet, your child could bring in a photo and sentence about their pet for our display board!



### Important Dates





Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2pm - Writing Workshop for Parents



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May - trip to Cumberland House Natural History Museum and Butterfly House



Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30 - Animal Parade - in the playground weather permitting - parents invited.



Thank you again for all your support - The Year R Team.

