

Reception Newsletter

**Driving question: How can we, as farmers, grow the tallest sunflower.
Down at the bottom of the garden**

Our topic this term is all about growing. This includes looking at the life cycle of a butterfly, watching our mystery seeds and also looking at the mini-beasts that live amongst the plants and shrubs.

We will be focusing on the story Monkey Puzzle as our text to learn this term.

Our focus questions this term:

Week 1 - What details can you see that you've never noticed before?

Week 2 - Have you come across any new words today that you haven't heard before?

Week 3 - Do all things grow and change in the same way?

Week 4 - How could you tell me a story with yourself, friends or family as the main characters?

Week 5 - What do I know about the area I live in and how could I help to look after it?

Week 6 - What is my biggest achievement this year? What have I found the most challenging thing this year?

Welcome back, we hope you all had a good break over the half term!

Just to remind you that you will receive a newsletter every term. This will be available on the website under our 'News' page and 'Letters to Parents'. Please also check our class page regularly as we will upload the stories we will be learning and photos of what we have achieved. If you would prefer a paper copy of the newsletter, please let the office know.



What an exciting and busy few weeks we had in Term 5! The children thoroughly enjoyed our pirate topic by learning the story of Black Eyed Bill and designing, making and testing their own pirate ships on the water. What fun and excitement will Term 6 bring?

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will be thinking about how we can become confident to try new activities independently, showing perseverance and resilience in the face of a challenge. We will be discussing the qualities of an independent learner and will be allowing the children opportunities to excel themselves in these skills. We will also be reflecting on our achievements over the Reception year and talking about the changes in store in preparation for the transition into Year 1.

Maths

This term we will be continue our focus on recalling our number bonds to 10, and recapping our double facts. We will also be doing a lot of exploring and representing patterns within numbers up to 10, this will include even and odd numbers.

HOME ACTIVITY

Can you go on a bug hunt at home? Count up the amount of legs that you have found on the bug in total. If they had double the amount of legs/spots etc., how many would they have?

Have a go at this game to support with your child's understanding of recalling number bonds as quickly as they can:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Physical Development

We are continuing to develop our fine motor skills to work towards a more fluent style of handwriting. To support our gross motor skills, P.E. will continue to be on a **Thursday** during which will be continuing looking at negotiating space and obstacles safely whilst, exploring the apparatus, moving our bodies in different ways, practising our ball skills and taking part in a variety of activities in preparation for our sports day! **SPORTS DAY IS ON THURSDAY 24TH JUNE AT 9:00AM. Children are to come dressed in P.E kit and will stay in their kit for the whole day.**

Understanding the World

Excitingly this term, we are going to be watching some chrysalis turn into butterflies- how exciting! Each of the children will also be planting a mystery seed. They will look after and observe their seed grow by keeping a diary of pictures and measurements of their plant.

HOME ACTIVITY: Why not encourage the children to look at and draw pictures of the flowers and plants in your garden or when out on a walk. Look at the colours and the different shapes and sizes. You could even grow your own cress, runner beans or strawberries so they can see the changes as they grow!



The Monkey Puzzle

There once was a monkey, a **little brown** monkey *who* sat **sadly** on his bum. He cried and he cried because he had lost his loving mum.

All of a sudden something flew by.

"Hush little monkey, don't you cry" said a beautiful, **fluttering** butterfly.

"Let's have a think. How big is she?"

"She's big!" said the monkey. "Bigger than me!"

"Bigger than you? Then I've seen your mum.

Come little monkey, come, come, come."

First they saw something with a **piercing** beak.

"No, no, no, that's a parrot, my mum doesn't **squabble** and **shriek!**

Ok, come little monkey, come, come, come."

Next they heard a **strange** hiss.

"No, no, no, that's a snake, my mum looks nothing like this!

Ok, come little monkey, come, come, come."

Then, they felt something **hairy** and fat.

"No, no, no, that's a spider, my mum doesn't have as many legs as that!"

Ok, come little monkey, come, come, come.

"But, butterfly, butterfly can't you see?

None of these **creatures** look like me!"

"I didn't know. I couldn't you see.

None of my babies look like me!

"Come little monkey, come, come, come.

Let's take you home to your.. Mum!"

The end