

# Reception Newsletter 23.04.18

Welcome back, we hope you had a lovely break. This term we will be beginning the transition to get the children ready for Year 1. We try to do this gradually to make the transition process as smooth as possible for the children. We have adapted our behaviour system to make it in line with the rest of the school and now have cards with each child's face on, all children start on green and will either move to the sun or the cloud depending on their behaviour. To promote independence during lunch time we are encouraging the children to get their own trays, cutlery and food. It is also still important that your child reads every day and the red books are signed, not only as an expectation from Year 1 but also because the children have enjoyed collecting their stickers and wristbands and this is a key time for your child to consolidate everything they have learnt.



We are learning in phonics for the next week and the first week back at school:

**Phonics Moonbeam:** tr, ft, gr and nt, nk, lp.

**Sunshine:** ar, or and ow, oi.

**Rainbow:** st, mp, nd and fl, lt, lf .

Learning to read the words:

want have all are like because



**The Horniman Museum:**

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May

**Celebration Day:**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May

**Godstone Farm:**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June

**Sports Day 11am onwards:**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July

Many thanks,

The Reception Team

## Maths

Next week we will be learning to use everyday language related to time. We will be sequencing our day, learning about the days of the week, months of the year and also using clocks to look at o'clock and half past. Here are some ideas of things you can do at home to support your child's learning.

Make a timetable of a day from the weekend. You could draw pictures for each activity or take photographs to stick on. Write in your meal times and any other activities you do. Underneath each activity, you or an adult could write the time.

Make up a song or rhyme to help you remember the days of the week and which order they come in. You could choose your favourite tune and sing the days of the week to it, or make a mnemonic to help you remember the order of the days e.g. 'Send Me To Water To Find Snakes'.

Make your own clock using a paper plate or by cutting a circle out of cardboard. Use a real clock to help you to write the numbers correctly and make your own clock hands. You could set the clock to different times to help you know when it is time for something, e.g. if you want to know when bedtime is. Ask an adult to help you set your clock to that time so you can check it against a working clock to know when you need to go upstairs.

Ask your friends and family to play 'What's the Time Mr Wolf?' One person stands with their back to the group and everyone else asks, 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' Mr Wolf says a time, e.g. '4 o'clock' and everyone steps forward 4 steps. Continue with different times, until Mr Wolf says 'dinnertime!' and chases everyone back to the start. The person Mr Wolf catches, becomes Mr Wolf next.

Use a paper plate or cut a circle out of cardboard and draw a smaller circle in the middle. Draw 2 lines across the plate so it is split into quarters. On the outer sections, draw more lines so each quarter is split into 3 equal sections. You should have 4 sections in the smaller circle and 12 in the larger circle. In the small circle, write the name of each of the seasons and draw a picture - winter, spring, summer, autumn. Next, in the outside sections, write each of the months next to the season they belong in. Draw a picture of something special that happens in each month.

Read some books about time, such as 'Jasper's Beanstalk' by Nick Butterworth, 'Oliver's Vegetables' by Vivian French and Alison Bartlett and 'The Bad-Tempered Ladybird' by Eric Carle.



This week we have started our Mini Beast topic. We have been on a mini beast hunt and looked at the similarities and differences of their features and compared them to our very own caterpillars that we have in our classes. Next week we are reading the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We will learn the story and innovate it with new characters and food and learn to retell our new story.



### **Key vocabulary:**

- Egg, caterpillar, cocoon, butterfly.
- Lifecycle.
- Mini- beasts, insects, spiders, wings, legs,
- Habitats, underground,

### **Reading suggestions:**

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar
- The Bad Tempered Ladybird
- Mad About Mini-beasts
- Nonfiction Mini beast books
- What the Ladybird Heard
- Lifecycle books.

### **Ideas to do at home:**

- Can you design your own mini beast? Encourage your child to think of comparisons whether you would like your mini beast to fly like a bee or swim like a frog, have a symmetrical pattern like a butterfly or have a hard shell like a snail. Then once they have drawn it can they give it a name and write a description of their new mini-beast?
- Make a watch out of paper and draw your favourite time of the day on it. Encourage your child to use scissors to carefully cut a circular and strip of paper, stick them together and use a real clock to guide them to write the numbers on it.

If your child completes any of the activities, please encourage them to hand it in to their teacher to share with the rest of the class.

### **Possible visits for you and your child:**

- Dulwich Wood mini beast hunting or pond dipping
- Natural History Museum
- Horniman Museum- Butterfly House