



Pear Class News

Summer 1

Firstly, a big welcome back to our final term in Reception! This term will hopefully bring brighter, sunnier weather and lots of opportunities for outdoor play and learning!

Just a quick reminder, please remember to check out Pear class page on the website to access the weekly blog and home learning tasks. You can also access lots of resources to help your child's learning at home!

This term we will be working on our main topics: 'Lifecycles, Growing and Minibeasts.' The children will be encouraged to explore nature, new life and changes through the growth of plants and grown produce.

Read, Write, Inc

In RWI, children in Pear class are making wonderful progress - we are very proud of all of the children.

As we progress into the Summer term, Reception children working with Mrs Horne-Smith will now be working from the "green get writing books" during RWI sessions. Children will start with a carpet session that will allow opportunity for sound recap, blending practice (to read words) and red word practice. We will then listen to a story as further stimulus for our reading and writing.

Mrs Tate's group will be working through the red writing books in the same way.

What's great about the "Get Writing" books is that the children have the opportunity to work as a team to read and when writing, they have time to correct mistakes made.

Some children will be continuing to develop confidence when 'Fred talking' and using set one sounds before starting Ditty sheets.

Mathematics

This half term we will be developing our number knowledge from 10-20 and beyond. We will practice counting, ordering numbers, comparing numbers, representing numbers and we will be learning about how numbers 11 and beyond are made up (tens and ones). We will then move onto addition and subtraction and the importance of number stories as we develop our confidence creating our own within our independent play.

Our mastering number sessions this term will focus around: counting larger amounts that cannot be seen with 1:1 correspondence, developing strategies when counting larger sets, strengthening subitising skills with irregular arrangements and patterns as well as predicting if the quantity is more or less than a given number. There will be further work on number bonds to 5 and the children will compose these in different representations using die frames and spatial language to describe their arrangements.

The children's ability to 'reason' will be developed throughout all of their mathematical work as they are encouraged to explain how they have reached solutions to problems.

The World

This term we will be continuing to explore spring changes as well as other topics such as 'minibeasts, growing/planting and new life.' These topics are all about investigation and we will be able to use simple classification to compare and identify the differences between minibeasts. We will use this information to produce fact files to demonstrate our understanding.

Creative Work

There will be opportunities for lots of painting and collaging as we keep to our focal theme during our creative work this half term. We will be drawing and painting a range of observed garden flowers and mini beasts, using warmer colours to create spring scene pictures and using watercolour paints to create our individual 'garden fit for a queen' as part of the Alnwick Garden's Queen's Jubilee competition. We will use our afternoon sessions to design and make 3D mini beasts from as well as following the children's own interests to create their own masterpieces! As part of our music delivery, we will

be following Charanga to listen to and appraise a range of Funk style music. We will be using our voices to sing and begin to learn about different percussion instruments. We will also be revisiting some of our favourite nursery rhymes.

The Physical Stuff

This half term the children will be planting, digging, scraping up leaves and using these opportunities to help keep our outside environments tidy as well as exploring signs of new life within the school grounds.

Pear Class will continue to take part in NUF training sessions as part of their PE coverage on Tuesdays as well as PE sessions with Miss Reilly on Thursdays. PE this term will focus on developing core strength and consolidating skills through activities using a range of gross motor skills such as climbing and balancing.

Finally, this term we will be checking that the children's fine motor skills are more controlled. Correcting improper pencil grip and letter formation is vital so that bad habits are not formed. We will continue to work on handwriting daily in our RWInc sessions but we also have weekly formal handwriting sessions so that we are able to monitor the formation of individual letters to correct size and orientation.

Weekly Learning Tasks:

- **Reading-** please encourage your child to read their reading book as much as possible. If they have read this confidently plenty of times, **please continue to access Bug Club**
- Have a go at reading and writing red words from red word walls 1,2,3 and 4 (these are on Pear class page if you need them)
Please check out our Pear Class Reading tab on the website. Here we will share the stories we are reading with your children over the term as well as our Teacher Recommends with some good ideas of stories that you too can read with your children at home.
- **Maths homework-** each week I will set a different challenge. One week it might be a Numicon challenge, one week it might be to access Numbots and the next it may be to have a go at a game on the White Rose maths app called "1 minute maths". You can download this app in your play store or app store for free!
- **You may need to update Numbots to the latest version- to v2.1.75 or above.** By updating, your child will have access to the new challenge mode. Have fun!

Key Vocabulary

Our children will continue to learn new vocabulary daily across all subjects. We will share some of this vocabulary weekly via our class blog so please help us to consolidate the understanding and the use of these words at home to ensure our children 'learn more, remember more'.

Other ways of helping your child:

- Visiting the library to look for books to support our topic (life cycles, animals and living things, minibeasts)
- Using the Internet to research our topic
- Discussing what has been taught at school (you can read plum class blog each week to find out about what we have learnt during the week)
- Playing English and Maths games on our virtual learning environment at www.school360.co.uk.

Reminders:

- Now that the weather is warming up, please ensure that your child has a sun hat and sun cream to keep in their bag
- Please bring a named water bottle every day
- Please arrive promptly for 8.35 so we can start our day. If you are running late, please drop your child at the main entrance
- ***TOPIC HOMEWORK-***Can all children bring in (or email Mrs Horne-Smith) a photo from when they were a baby and a photo when they were a bit younger (age 3 perhaps). We will be sharing these as we learn about life cycles and growth. Please bring in/email your pictures by Friday 13th May.

Remember we are always here if you have any concerns or questions. You can contact us via email or we can arrange a phone conversation if you would prefer.

Please send any emails to Mrs Horne-Smith Monday to Wednesday and to Miss Reilly on Thursdays and Fridays:

Laurie.horne-smith@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk

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