



Pear Class News: Spring One

Animal Adaption and Winter Wonders

Firstly, a very happy new year to all Pear Class families! We hope that you are well rested and looking forward to another busy term. **Just a quick reminder, please do remember to check out our blog on Fridays to catch up on all of our weekly learning!**

Read Write Inc

Assessments at the end of the Autumn Term showed fabulous progress and this is testament to our hard working children and the super support you have given from home.

Read Write Inc will continue daily throughout the term as we move on to the next phase in our reading journey.

Now that we have taught all of the Set 1 sounds we are going to focus on using these to help read short words and Ditties which will contain both green and red words. We will also begin to write short phrases, making sure that we form our letters correctly and leave finger spaces. There will of course be lots of time for consolidation for those who need to re-visit Set 1 sounds - no child is left behind and we ensure that everyone continues to make the progress they need to on their own learning journey.

Please consult our tab on the website: **Supporting your child at home** for information on RWI sounds, red and green words, as well as information on how to use the Ditties that we will begin to send home from the second week of term.

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 use of these words at home to ensure our children 'learn more, remember more'.

Mathematics

In our mathematical work, we will be continuing to develop our understanding of the composition of numbers 1-5, developing our confidence of these number bonds through partitioning and sharing these numbers using the part, part, whole method. We will develop our understanding of one more than, one less than using place value as our guide as we jump forwards and backwards on the number line.

We will then move on to numbers 6-9 as we begin to consider the sub groups within these numbers as we continue to utilise our subitising skills to add numbers together to create the whole amount -the first steps on the ladder towards creating addition number stories. We will be considering the patterns within number as we group arrangements; sharing irregular amounts of items, in-turn developing our understanding of odd and even numbers.

Alongside our number work we will be developing our shape, space and measure skills by exploring capacity, mass, height, length and time and recording our findings using our newly acquired mathematical vocabulary.

All of our maths work will continue to be delivered as practically as possible, but there will start to be more of an emphasis on the children recording their findings; our classroom bird watching tally chart, our daily weather chart and our morning tens frame registration will allow plenty of opportunities for the children to practise and master these skills.

The World

We will be taking our inspiration and wonders from the season of Winter to explore our environment as we investigate the changing state of materials due to colder temperatures. We will explore the birds that visit our school grounds in Winter and consider how we can help them in bad weather, as well as considering other wildlife that may be living around us, revisiting our topic of hibernation and migration from the Autumn term. We will learn more about the habitats of British

Garden Birds in particular, comparing them to the habitats of birds and animals from colder climates to consider how animals adapt to their environments.

With a bit of luck, we'll get just enough snow and Winter weather to investigate and explore it's wonders without it causing too much disruption! As part of this, we'll keep a daily weather chart and take the temperature each day. The children will enjoy icy explorations as they discover the best materials for keeping warm.

We are going to do a little bit of historical work about winters gone by and we hope that you'll be able to help with this by sharing pictures of yourselves enjoying winter weather in the past or pictures of the children themselves in the snow. We'll be in touch soon with further details about this!

Creative and Imaginative Work

This term will include singing lots of winter related songs and learning and reciting rhymes. We will use instruments to accompany our singing and to create our own 'spiky' Winter music.

We will be thinking a lot about colour and exploring the cold colour palette of winter, using these colours to create a variety of adult led art as well as encouraging the children to experiment and explore as they create their own.

There will be plenty of opportunities for children to build and construct with a creative purpose, using a range of junk materials and construction kits. We'll be encouraging the children to think independently about how they are going to join and assemble as they work, utilising the skills of adaption as they plan, do and review throughout the process.

There will also be lots of opportunity for small world and role play relating to Winter themed stories that we'll share together.

The Physical Stuff

We will try to get out onto the field (with our wellies!) at least once a week to follow treasure hunts, look for birds, and make bird hides and spot signs of winter. PE day will continue to be on a Thursday - **please remember to send the children to school in their PE kit as per the website**. This term we will be exploring different ways we can use our bodies to balance and move. We will continue to develop our fine motor skills through lots of writing, cutting, colouring and manipulating. You can support us in this by encouraging your child to hold pencils and scissors correctly and by providing opportunities for these experiences at home. Many of our children have mastered the art of fastening their own zip and we'll continue to support the children to do this throughout the half term. At lunchtime, as always, we'll look for children who are in the 'knife and fork gang' and celebrate their skills. Please continue to support your child in acquiring this essential life skill at home!

Reading

Thank you to everyone who has embraced our new reading scheme and provided the children with opportunities to read these books at home. The children read with us each week and we are really beginning to notice those who are reading regularly at home - your hard work is paying off! The children usually read with us on Thursdays and Fridays so please ensure their book and Reading Record are in school by Thursday each week. Please do also continue to use Bug Club alongside the books we send home as it gets the children used to independently using technology for informative purpose and these books are also aligned with our phonic coverage in RWInc.

360 Journals

We love to see the contributions that you make. It's great to see school learning extended into the home and also to find out about the things that your children are currently interested in and enjoying out of school. It's also great to see their achievements - riding their bikes, writing on their own, getting a swimming award etc. We will continue to add to journals in school but as discussed last term we work from books so observations will mainly be of significant learning achievements. If you are unable to access your child's journal, get in touch and I'll get you on board.

Every day please remember: Water bottles, warm coats, hats and mittens (all named!). Also, please ensure that long hair is tied back. It's hard to work and play when hair is in your face! Could we also politely remind you that our school day starts at 8.35. If the door is closed by the time you arrive the only entrance will be via the office. The doors will be closed by 8.40 to ensure that we are able to get on with our busy day!

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

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