

### **A note from Mrs Humphreys, Mrs Hydes and Miss Fisher...**

The final term of the school year is upon us and we are really looking forward to an exciting few months with the children. The children have come back after Easter with an eagerness to engage in all aspects of learning throughout the day! Over the next few of weeks, we will start to make changes in the classroom to reflect the style of teaching and learning in Year 1. This is to support with transition to the next year group in September. The children have enjoyed completing short writing and phonics activities at the tables recently and are gaining more independence in their learning. This will extend into other areas of the curriculum where appropriate, such as maths. Children will still have extended periods of play within the indoor and outdoor learning environments throughout the day. Please see below for information on the summer term curriculum.

### **Learning Theme- 'All around the World'**

As a starting point for our learning throughout the summer term we will build on the knowledge children learned throughout our farm theme last half term. Children will learn that not only animals are kept on a farm, but plants (foods) are also grown on farms. We will sort and categorise fruits and vegetables and think about how we can stay healthy by eating a variety of these. We will then learn about how some fruits and vegetables can be grown in gardens and we will be developing a growing area in the outdoor classroom. The children will plant seeds and care for them as they watch them grow.

Further learning about gardens will be explored by thinking about what insects and minibeasts can be found in a garden. Again, we will learn about the different types of mini beasts and sort and categorise them eg. Can fly, can crawl, can slither etc. We will go on a mini beast hunt in Amberswood and the children will learn in particular about the life cycle of a butterfly- with the chance to watch caterpillars grow, make their chrysalis and then transform to butterflies!

#### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

- We will focus on working together, with a partner and in a small group
- We will develop confidence in trying new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.
- We will talk about the perspectives and feelings of others

#### **Communication and Language**

- We will learn lots of new vocabulary linked to our theme eg. seed, bean, nutrients, life cycle, chrysalis, transform
- We will use new vocabulary in different contexts, particularly when explaining and describing events and how things work/change
- We will use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities

#### **Physical Development**

- We will focus on 'ball skills' and 'games' this term
- We will learn how to roll, throw at a target, bounce, catch and kick a ball successfully.
- We will learn how to work together, developing co-operation, turn taking and decision making skills.
- We will focus on honesty and fair play when playing games

#### **Literacy**

Our focus texts this term will 'Oliver's Vegetables', 'Jack and the beanstalk' and 'Mad about minibeasts' Various non-fiction books about growing foods and insects found in the garden will be shared

**Phonics**  
We will be continuing to learn Phase 3 sounds. We will then move on to Phase 4 where the children will read slightly longer words (CVCC and CCVC eg. sand, spin)

#### **Maths**

- We will move on to recognising and counting numbers to 20.
- We will focus on skills of doubling, sharing and halving.
- We will work on mastering our understanding of number bonds to 5 and 10.
- We will gain a deeper understanding of odd and even numbers, 3D shapes and capacity

#### **Understanding the world**

- We will explore the seasonal changes Spring to Summer
- We will plant beans, care for them, watch them grow and keep a record of their changes in a bean diary
- We will observe caterpillars, butterflies, snails, worms etc and discuss their similarities and differences
- We will think about how humans (ourselves) grow and change

#### **Expressive Arts and Design**

- We will develop our drawing skills through weekly observational drawing linked to our theme of learning
- We will create collages using different materials and textures. We will look at the artist 'Matisse' and create his work 'The Snail' and create art work in response to this.
- We will sing lots of songs linked to insects and mini beasts eg 'There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf

#### **Other curriculum information:**

- Amberswood:** This term we will visit Amberswood to look for insects and mini beasts. We will also visit to observe how the trees have changed in Summer.
- Skills Builder:** We will be focusing on the skills of 'Teamwork' and 'Problem Solving' and 'Creativity'
- RE:** The themes we will look at this term are 'Special Places' and 'Special People' We will be visiting St Nathaniel's church.

We will also look at the celebrations of St George's Day. We will join in with whole school celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

#### **Other information:**

Home Reading – Reading books will be changed on Mondays. These are the books for your child to read to practice their phonics skills to read. Please make sure you listen to your child read **at least three times per week**. Reading diaries are checked and monitored each week. Please make sure you sign in your child's diary when you have read with them so that their books can be changed. Library books will be changed on Tuesdays- there are the books for you to read to your child as a 'sharing story'

Water bottles- Please only send only water in your child's water bottle for school.

PE- Please continue to send your child to school wearing their PE kits on Mondays.