

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to inform you of what we are doing in Reception Class this half term. Our main theme is 'Growing' and we will be using this topic to support children's learning throughout the half term. We will also be following the children's interests when planning our learning this half term. Please find below what each area of our learning will be focussing on.

Communication & Language

This half term we will be using language to sequence ideas or events. An example of this would be: "The seed grew a shoot because we watered it and left it in the sun. After this it grew into a plant as we put it in the soil." You could help your child by asking them to extend their explanations to include more detail.

Physical Development

We have been so lucky to have an exciting PE session with Mr Kelly who has shown us different ways to work on our physical skills and how to be a good sportsman. This half term we will be working on these challenges. You could help your child by playing racing games, climbing on different levels, or any active play.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

This half term we will have an increased focus of collaborative learning. We will be encouraging the children to play games together that involve them following rules and negotiating. You could help your child at home by playing board games or games that involve teamwork.

Understanding the World

We will be learning all about growth in plants and animals this half term through our topic. We will learn about the life cycles of butterflies and frogs and we will observe the changes in seeds that we plant ourselves. You could help your child by talking about the changes in the environment as the season changes and re-searching about growth such as how tadpoles turn into frogs.

Literacy

We will continue practising the skills for reading and writing simple sentences. In order to do this, we will be focusing on 'Tricky Words' and our 'next steps code'. We will write descriptions about living things, lists, instructions, observations and re-counts. You could help your child by noticing their interests and encouraging them to write about them. Don't forget our new home reading challenge! Our reading will focus on understanding the text we have read. You could help by asking your child questions about the story to see if they have understood what they read.

Mathematics

This half term we will be securing our number knowledge to 20 including adding and subtracting single digit numbers. You could help your child by practising these skills at home by adding and taking away toys. We will also be learning to use language to talk about money this term. You could help by letting your child have experience with money and paying and talking to them about different coins and notes.

Expressive Arts & Design

We will be focusing on imaginative role play and will be acting out collaboratively in a group. The children will be able to play in our 'farm shop' and act out different stories that we will be learning. We will be drawing, painting or modelling representations of plants and animals.



*Reception
Summer 1
Growing*

Other News

Farm Visit

As we are learning about growing this half term, we will be lucky enough to have a visit from Longdown Mobile Farm on the 15th May. The farmer will bring a range of animals into our playground that we can talk about and interact with. If you are concerned about this or your child has any allergies we do not know about already then please speak to your child's class teacher.

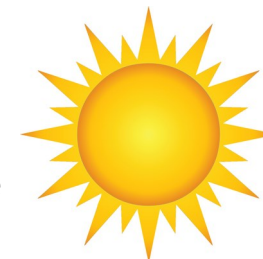


Toys at School

Please may we remind you that the children are not to bring toys to school. We are unable to ensure we can keep them safe and do not want your child to become upset if it gets lost or broken.

Warmer Weather

We are hoping that this half term will bring us some warmer weather! If it does become hotter please could you ensure your child is bringing in a named hat to wear when playing outside. If you would like to bring in suncream this can stay in your child's book bag. We will help them apply the cream by directing them about where to apply but unfortunately we cannot rub it in for your children so please make sure they are able to do this themselves.



Mobile Phones

Please can we remind you not to use your mobile phones in school for the safety of all children.

We will regularly keep you informed with our routines, upcoming events and anything you may need to know. However if you have any questions please do not hesitate to talk to your child's teacher.

Many thanks! Miss Griffiths and Mrs Smith