

## Newsletter 3 March 2017

Welcome back after a lovely half term break. This half term is known as Spring 2, and will have the theme of "changes". This will cover changes in the seasons from winter to spring, changes in the environment including new plants and new life we can see around us, and how the weather changes. There are already lots of shoots, buds and new plants starting to show in our garden area and we will start to enhance our wildlife garden now which will encourage lots of birds and insects to visits throughout the year.

### **Our Learning this Week**

We started the week with our new phonics groups and the children have been brilliant adapting to the changes. Thank you for all your support with the new groups and talking to your children prior to starting back at school. Both classes have been reviewing existing sounds and tricky words, focussing on correct letter formation and sentence structure. Mrs Heywood/Mrs Richardson's group have been looking at CVCC words. In our maths sessions we have been talking about ordinal numbers; first, second, third etc and working practically to engage the children.

### **Talk for Writing**

Using daffodils as a focus, we have been working with poetry this week. We have read a poem and created our own using beautiful descriptive words and actions. The children have been writing sentences about spring in their "busy" time which is now part of a wonderful display, please take a look in the mornings.

### **New Classroom Layout**

You will have noticed that both classrooms have changed over the half term break. We are constantly changing our learning environment to link to the needs of the children and their ever changing interests. We are delighted with the changes and the children have loved exploring the new areas.

### **Junk Modelling Materials**

Thank you for the boxes and tubes that have been coming into school this week. The children have been very creative and made some adventurous models. Please continue to bring them into school as we will always need the materials replacing.

### **Shrove Tuesday**

We enjoyed a special snack time treat on Tuesday with pancakes! The children shared their favourite toppings and the pancakes were delicious. In our afternoon sessions we talked about why we eat pancakes on this day and how it is the start of Lent and also the start of the Easter celebrations.

### **World Book Day**

We had a fantastic day celebrating the beauty and our love of books by dressing up as our favourite book characters. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In book bags was a £1 book token to use towards a new book. You will be able to use the token at our "Book Fair" on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March after school.

**Pamper Evening - Friday 17 March**

Unfortunately, it has been necessary to cancel the Pamper Evening as not enough beauty therapists or stallholders came forward. However, the PTA will instead be running a Quiz Night on the same evening at the same times (6.00pm to 9.00pm). Letters will be sent home in children's bags with more information and a reply slip to request tickets.

**Next Week**

In phonics we will all review our existing sounds, tricky words and high frequency words each session. Mrs Heywood/Mrs Richardson's group will look at CVCC (consonant, vowel, consonant, consonant), words which use the letter sounds that were learnt in Phase 2 and Phase 3. They will look at the tricky words **come** and **some**. Mrs Dodd's group will continue to work in Phase 3 we will work on the diagraphs **ur** and **ow** and the high frequency words **then**, **them**, **see** and **for** and we will incorporate these in our sentence work each day. In maths we will look at numbers 1 - 20. We will use the Numicon to support our learning. Moving through the week to doubling, halving and number sentences.

**Recycling Workshop - Thursday 9 March**

On Thursday morning the children will work with CWAC recycling department. We will learn about how our waste is recycled and how we can help change and enhance our environment for the better and for our wildlife. There is no cost but we would like the children to bring a wide variety of junk modelling into school to use on the day to sort and to create wonderful models. This can be cardboard boxes, plastic trays and containers, yogurt pots of different sizes and newspaper. Please no glass or tins.

**Twitter**

Early Years are regularly tweeting "snapshots" of our day and exciting times and achievements. Please take a look; we are always proud of our children and this is an excellent way for you to share this with us.

**Dates for your Diary**

<b>Thursday 9 March</b>	<b>Recycling Workshop</b>
<b>Monday 20 - Tuesday 21 March</b>	<b>Book Fair</b>
<b>Wednesday 22 - Thursday 23 March</b>	<b>Parents Appointments</b>
<b>Thursday 23 March</b>	<b>Stay and Play - 3</b>
<b>Friday 31 March</b>	<b>End of Term. Return 18 April</b>
<b>Thursday 20 April</b>	<b>Dental Survey</b>
<b>Friday 21 April</b>	<b>Celebration Assembly 2.45 main hall.</b>

Have a great weekend.

**Mrs J Dodd**

**Mrs K Heywood**

**Mrs Z Richardson**