

# Owls Class Newsletter- Term 5

Hello and welcome back. We hope you had a great break.

Hopefully the weather will improve throughout this term, so please ensure that your child has a named sun hat in their book bag to wear on the warmer days.

We are trying to discourage the children from bringing in toys from home, as they become upset if they get lost or damaged. Thank you for your support with this.

Please come and speak to one of us if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs Foxall and Mrs Wiffen

We are continuing to encourage children to be independent young people, and we have three practical targets for the term:

- **Ensure that all items of PE kit are placed back in their PE bag after PE sessions.**
- **To be able to solve small practical problems in the classroom. For example, finding a pencil or a chair for themselves.**
- **To be able to put their shoes on the correct feet.**

The children complete a reading activity every day in class during guided reading sessions. An adult hears them read at least twice a week. Reading books are changed and brought home each Tuesday and Friday. Please send their reading record books in every day and try to read regularly with your child at home and ask them questions about the text.

Please ensure that a complete P.E. kit (including plimsolls or trainers) is named and available in class at all times.

As the weather gets warmer, children are encouraged to drink more water during the day. Please ensure you send a named water bottle into class. Plain water bottles are available to buy from the school office.

## **Why not share some of these activities with your child:**

Here are just some ideas of activities you could complete linked to this term's topic of **Growing & Minibeasts**. More information about our topics can be found on the back of this letter.

### **Topic**

- Find out about a minibeast of your choice. Find out facts such as: what does it eat or where does it live?
- Plant some seeds in your garden and see if you can care for them in order for them grow successfully.
- Go for a walk in your local area and note all of the living things you see along the way.

### **Literacy**

- Play Tell a T-Rex on [www.ictgames.co.uk](http://www.ictgames.co.uk) . Read the question and give a yes/no answer.
- Write a sentence containing a fact about a minibeast.
- Write a story about a magic bean. What would it grow into and what would happen to characters in the story?

### **Maths**

- Play Teddy Numbers on <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/teddy-numbers> Count the correct number of objects for the teddy bear.
- Design your own repeating pattern necklace using two or three colours.
- Ask someone at home to give you some double questions to work out.

## What are we learning this term?

**\*Topic-** We will be visiting Quex Adventure Farm later on in the term, where we will be handling and feeding animals, walking goats and going on a tractor ride. There is also a lovely woodland adventure trail and farm park with play equipment.

We will be learning about Growing and Minibeasts this term. We will learn about different minibeasts and where they live. We will then be finding out how a plant grows and what it needs in order to grow successfully. The children will be planting and caring for their own seeds as well as helping to care for plants in our class garden. The children will observe and track changes in living things around them including keeping records of how their seeds developed.

*In addition to topic sessions, we will also have regular Phonics, Literacy and Maths sessions. Our learning in these areas is outlined below*

**\*Phonics-** We will continue to recap the sounds we learnt last term in addition to learning new sounds. We will practise how to segment and blend sounds in order to read simple words and sentences. In addition to learning new sounds, we will also learn some tricky words which cannot be decoded using phonics and instead need to be recognised from memory.

The sounds which will be recapped or taught are as follow:  
ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er

We will also continue to recap the Phase 3 'Tricky Words':  
he, she, we, me, be, you, are, was, all, her, they, my

**\*Literacy-** Literacy lessons will be split between storytelling sessions and sessions focussing on information texts. The children will find out about information texts and their purpose. They will then be presenting the facts they find out about minibeasts in an information page including text and images. The children will be completing storytelling and story writing activities linked to The Very Lazy Ladybird, Jack and the Beanstalk and other stories, including recalling events and describing characters. Lessons will continue to cover how to write sentences which feature finger spaces between each word, a capital letter and a full stop. When writing words and sentences, the children will be encouraged to apply the phonic sounds they know in order to spell regular words correctly and to make phonetically plausible attempts at more challenging words.

**\*Maths-** This term, the children will continue counting up to 20, ensuring that they can count objects accurately and say and write the numbers correctly. They will work on their mental recall of number facts such as addition and subtraction facts with numbers to 10 and recalling doubles facts to double 6. They will continue to learn about odd and even numbers and sharing quantities into equal groups. They will complete number problems involving all of these concepts. The children will also learn about 2D shapes, money and measuring weight, time, length and capacity.

### Diary Dates

27<sup>th</sup> April – Class Photos

8<sup>th</sup> May – Year R Vision Screening

15<sup>th</sup> May – Sponsored Bounce

Date TBC - Trip to Quex Adventure Farm

23<sup>rd</sup> May – Last day of Term 5

1<sup>st</sup> June – Staff Development Day

2<sup>nd</sup> June – Start of Term 6