


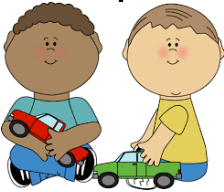


Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are writing to share with you an overview of the learning opportunities that your child will be experiencing in the first half of the summer term in Early Years. In addition to this information, please see the class planning boards in each classroom for the ideas the children have contributed too!

One topic this half term is 'Life Cycles'. We will be collecting frogspawn from the school pond and observing as it develops into tadpoles and then froglets, which we will return to the school pond. We will also be incubating hens' eggs and hopefully watching as the baby chicks emerge. Finally, we will be watching as caterpillars grow, spin a cocoon and then emerge as butterflies.

Another topic of the half term is 'creepy crawlies'. We will have a visit from 'Zoo Lab' who will bring real life creepy crawlies into the classroom for the children to experience!

<p><b>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</b></p> 	<p>We will be helping the children to resolve any conflicts that may happen within the class, make compromises and get along together, showing an increasing sensitivity to each other's needs.</p> <p>We will continue to help all children to understand and follow the class rules and to maintain their positive relationships with peers and familiar adults.</p>
<p><b>Communication and Language Development</b></p> 	<p>We will be reading lots of stories with the children. Pupils will continue to develop their ability to listen attentively and anticipate key events in these stories, joining in with repeating phrases.</p> <p>We will be encouraging the children to develop and expand their vocabulary, especially vocabulary related to our new topics.</p>
<p><b>Physical Development</b></p> 	<p>The children will continue to be active in the outside playground each day. We will all be using the new whole school Trim Track for a daily walk / jog / run. Children will be active in our weekly PE times in the school hall and on the school field using a range of equipment.</p> <p>Reception children will be encouraged to form recognisable letters when writing.</p>
<p><b>Literacy Development - Reading and writing</b></p> 	<p>Children will be reading and sharing lots of books in school with their peers and adults.</p> <p>Reception children will bring home two reading scheme books each week to be shared at home.</p> <p>Reception children will continue to learn the names and sounds of all the letters of the alphabet and use these in their writing.</p>

### Mathematics Development



Children will be developing their skills and ability when counting to five, ten, twenty and beyond. They will also practise finding one more and one less from a small group of objects.

Reception children will be using equipment to help them add and subtract two single digit numbers.

Children will increase their knowledge of shape, weight and measurements. They will recognise, create and describe simple patterns and be encouraged to solve simple problems involving counting.

### Understanding the World



The children will be learning about the 'Life Cycles' of frogs, butterflies and chickens. We will have tadpoles, hens' eggs and caterpillars in the classroom for the children to observe, ask questions and make predictions about what may happen. We will be teaching the children how to show care and concern for living things and the environment.

We will be learning about creepy crawlies including a visit from 'Zoo Lab' with real creepy crawlies for us to look at. We will also be looking for creepy crawlies in our school environment and making creepy crawly models.

Children will be using the classroom computers as well as the school ipads and cameras.

### Expressive Arts and Design



Children will have daily access to the role play areas of the classrooms which change on a regular basis.

Children also have daily access to the creative area of each classroom enabling them to paint, draw and make models with a wide range of materials.

We will be using a range of different musical instruments and exploring the sounds that they can make as well as joining in with familiar classroom songs.

Please remember that your child's book bag and water bottle should be in school every day. Your child's PE kit should stay in school for the half term. Please ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled. On very hot days your child will need a sunhat and should have sun cream applied before they come to school.

At Castle Park we value the important partnership between home and school. Please use the information above to support your child with their learning over the coming weeks. If you have any questions about any of this information, please feel free to call into school and see us.

If you think you could help with any of our topics this half term please speak to a member of staff.

Thank you

*The Early Years Team*