

Acorn class - Summer 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you all had a fantastic Easter break and that the children are well rested for the busy term ahead.

P.E This term we will be having P.E. sessions with Mr. Hughes, our sports coach, on Monday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. As discussed with parents at Parents evening we are encouraging those Nursery children who will be in Reception in September to participate in some P.E sessions as part of our transition into Reception.

Dates for the diary - Here are a few upcoming dates:

Monday 29th April- First 'Football club' after school for those Reception children who signed up.- Until 4.30pm Letter on website. (£30 for the whole term)

Monday 6th May - School closed for May Bank Holiday

Tuesday 7th May - First Puzzle club for those Reception children who signed up.

Friday 24th May -Break up for half term.

Monday 3rd June- Back to school.

Wednesday 26th June - Sports Day (Reserve Sports Day- Friday 28th in the event of rain)

Thursday 18th July - Last Day of term

What are we learning over the coming weeks until half term?

In the Early Years we are always busy learning. Much of our learning is planned in response to the interests displayed by the children; however, over the coming weeks our focus is based on 'Plants, seeds and growing'. We will be planting seeds and growing plants. We will be learning where some of our food comes from. We will also be discussing which foods we might choose to eat that are healthy for us and trying to grow some fruits and vegetables for our snacks in school.

Please collect for us: Small cardboard boxes,
Cardboard tubes (kitchen roll / foil tubes/ gift wrap etc)
Washed out yogurt pots
Newspapers

If any parents are having a clear out of old toys that your children have outgrown we are always looking out for toy cars/ tractors / Lego / dressing up costumes. We would be most grateful of any good quality second-hand toys.



Hopefully we will be lucky enough to have some nice sunny weather this term. Please ensure children have sun lotion applied before school and then send labelled sun-lotion if you wish for children to re-apply it during the day. Please also send a sun- hat and water bottle so that children can enjoy using the outdoor area safely.

Staff changes: As mentioned via a message on the App before Easter, a reminder that we have some staffing changes this term in Acorn class. Miss Bunn, one of our fantastic teaching assistants is currently on a block teaching placement in Sycamore class as part of her teaching qualification degree. We wish her lots of luck doing this. She will be back in Acorn class in early July. During this period Mrs. Davies will be working in Acorn class.

Mrs Forsyth, who had worked at West Felton for the last few years, has moved to take up a teaching assistant post in one of our federated school. We wish her lots of luck in her new role. Acorn class will miss her greatly.

Number crew focus until half term:

Reception:

We will be learning about doubles, and trying to link these to halving. We are working to build children's instant recall, for example knowing that double 3 is 6.

We will revisit 'subtraction' and solving problems by 'taking away' objects but also by counting back along a number line to solve problems.

We will be beginning to learn some of the numbers pairs that make 10. (Number bonds) For example 5+5, 7+3, 9+1.

We will be beginning to count in 2's, 5's and 10's.

Nursery:

We will continue to focus on counting objects accurately, touching each object and saying one number for each number. Beginning to recognise more numerals, especially those that are important to them.

Beginning to recognise common 2D shapes, such as circles, triangles, rectangles etc.

Reading at home



Well done to those children who completed the Easter Reading challenge!

Reception children – Please remember to read at home regularly and learn those 'tricky words'. **At least** three times a week is a suggested minimum. Those children who read or use their phonics cards regularly really do make fantastic progress in comparison to those who read less often. If any parents or carers could spare some time to come into school as a volunteer reader then please speak to Miss Miller. We are always grateful of another adult to hear the children in school.

Nursery children - Even though your child is unlikely to be able to read for themselves it is extremely valuable for children to regularly share books with an adult. Not only will this help to develop a love for books but there are endless opportunities for children to develop their vocabulary and language through sharing of books. Much documented research over many years has found that children's vocabulary at the age of 3, and then at 5 is a clear indicator of children's success later in life.

Just 5 minutes a day can have a significant impact on your child's vocabulary. A recent study suggests that by the age of 5 a child who shares just one children's book a day with an adult will have heard approximately 290,000 different words more than a child who never shares any books. Hearing 5 books a day would mean a child hears a staggering 1.5 million words more than a child who does not share any books by the age of 5! Please remember that you are always welcome to borrow books from our book corner. Oswestry Library also offers free books and a wonderful children's area for you to visit.

A reminder that we try to update your child's 'Learning Book' regularly so please remember to check every now and then. If you need your password/ log-on reissuing then please speak to Miss Miller.

Many thanks to all of the parents who have added comments to 'Learning Book' or uploaded pictures of your child's 'wow' moments at home during the last term. It is greatly appreciated. If you do not have internet access at home you are more than welcome to pop into Acorn class after school to use our computers to access it.

Finally, I would like to remind parents and carers that if you have any questions or concerns then please feel free to speak to any member of the Acorn team who will be happy to help.



Kind Regards

Miss Miller and the Early Years Team