



Early Years Newsletter

Another great half term seems to have flown by already. We have had such fun acting, performing, writing about and illustrating our fairy stories this half term. Jack and the Beanstalk has been a firm favourite this half term! We hope that you have enjoyed sharing fairy tales at home too! Our children are making great progress across all areas of development. Over the Easter holidays is a good time to practise handwriting and reading too! A reminder that we would like children to practise their tricky words and read their reading books three times a week at home.

Our Topic



Our Amazing World!

Our next topic will be 'Our Amazing World'. We will be investigating the world around us! We will start by looking for signs of new life at school, at home, on our walk to school... We have exciting additions joining our class in the form of eggs! We will be caring for and observing our eggs, watching them hatch into chicks! We will also be finding out all about minibeasts, which is always very popular with the children! We shall be looking at plants and growing our own from seeds and we shall be finding out what plants need to thrive. In mathematics we will be counting backwards, forwards and in 2's and 10's. We will also be writing information sheets and non-fiction books about animals, these will be complemented by animal visits to school. The highlight of this topic will be our trip to Longdown Activity Farm on Friday 18th April!

Timetable

Below is a timetable of some of the lessons that will go on weekly. Hopefully it will help those conversations about their school day!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
RE	Gymnastic	Library	Games	RE
Whole School Mass	KS1 Assembly	Music French Class Assembly	Hymn Practice	Celebration assembly

Each day your child will be doing phonics, literacy, numeracy and art activities which will take place both inside and outside. We will also visit the playtrail most days!

PE

Now the weather is turning mild we will be taking our PE lessons outside. Therefore please could you send your child in with suitable footwear - Velcro plimsolls or trainers. No laces please!





SCHOOL UNIFORM

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL OF YOUR CHILD'S UNIFORM IS NAMED OVER  THE EASTER HOLIDAYS.

Please could you check to make sure you have the correct uniform. We have quite a few missing (named) jumpers and cardigans. THANK YOU!

Homework

This half term we would like our children to practice teen number formation. We would also like children to work on their tricky words (attached), reading and writing words please. We have sent four reading books home for Easter too.

Our next topic will be about new life so if we would great if they were to grow a plant from seed or look out for signs of new life.



Family Learning



Our Friday morning sessions, 8.45-9.30am, will continue until the end of the school year. There will be a variety of activities out for you to share with your child.

We plan to have more family learning sessions with various focuses throughout the year. Below I have attached the dates for these. In the unlikely event that I need to change a date, I will give you as much notice as possible.

Wednesday 2nd May 3.10-3.30pm - Ladybird Assembly (You may arrive at 3pm)

Wednesday 16th May 2.30-3.20pm - New life

Wednesday 23rd May 3.10-3.30pm - Bumblebee Assembly (You may arrive at 3pm)

Thursday 19th July 2.30 - 3.30pm -- Graduation Ceremony

We say a sad goodbye to Mrs Sutton this half term. I'm sure you will join me in thanking Mrs Sutton for all the care she has shown the children. She has been an enthusiastic and dedicated member of the Early Years team. We wish her well in her new school.

We welcome Miss Lock, who is returning from maternity leave. Many of you will know Miss Lock, who is an experienced Early Years' teacher. She has been in for a number of days this term getting to know the children. Miss Lock is very excited to be returning and I'm sure you will all join me in offering her a warm welcome.



Phase 2 to 5 Tricky Words

Phase 2

I
no
the
to
go
into

Phase 3

he
she
we
me
be
you
are
her
was
all
they
my

Phase 4

said
have
like
so
do
some
come
little
one
were
there
what
when
out

Phase 5

oh
Mrs
people
their
called
Mr
looked
asked
could



Please do fill in an 'I'm Proud of my child because...' and send into class or email jverhiest@st-swithuns.portsmouth.sch.uk so we can celebrate these moments at school.

I'm proud of my child because...

From _____ Date _____

I'm proud of my child because...

From _____ Date _____