

Acorns Newsletter

Summer Term One

It was so lovely to welcome all of our children back in to class last half term. We had lots of excitement with our living eggs experiences, as the children watched several chicks hatch in class and grow in to lovely, fluffy chicks. Following on from the children's keen interest in animals, this term's theme is super creatures! We'll be exploring books such as 'Superworm' and 'Supertato', and exploring different superheroes and their powers. We'll also be looking at creatures such as minibeasts, completing some more planting and looking at festivals and events such as Eid and St George's Day. What a great half-term we have ahead of us!

Mrs Gibson

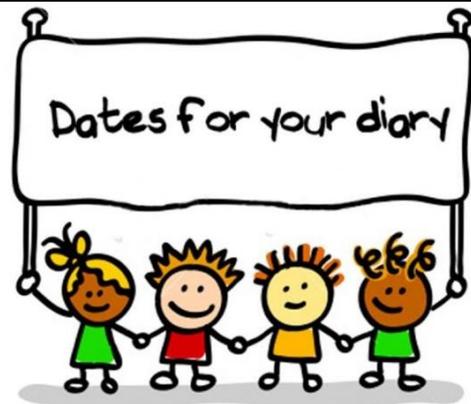


Please remember to bring a change of clothes for:

- Forest School every Monday
- PE every Thursday

The reason we ask for a change of clothes to be sent is so that the children can get used to managing their own belongings in class and practice getting dressed/undressed, in preparation for Reception in September.

Please remember to have a look at our weekly sway page! It's full of links to videos, resources and activities that we're doing in class.



St George's Day 23rd April

Ramadan 12th April - 12th May

May Day (School closed) - 3rd May

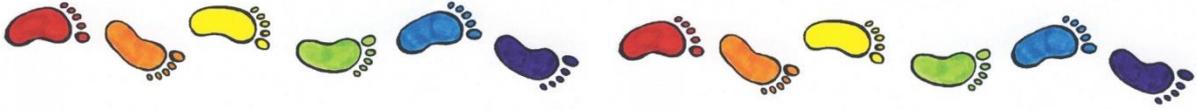
Eid al-Fitr 12th - 13th May

School closes for half term - 28th May



Congratulations to Archie-Blue, Liliana, Blake, India, Annie and Laura for being our Stars of the Week last half-term.

Our Learning Journey So Far



Nursery is one big learning journey, and we're keen to encourage children's learning through following their own interests. Here are some of the things we got up to last half term, and how this supported your child's learning.

The children took part in the living eggs experience. We hatched ten eggs in total in an incubator, and then moved the chicks in to a brooder box with a heat lamp. The children got to feed the chicks, clean them and hold them as part of developing our understanding of the world.



We spent some time learning about life on the farm, where we explored the different animals we might see there and the vehicles that might be used. The children learned about the baby names for different animals, such as lamb, calf and chick. We had a farmyard tuff tray and the children had great fun re-enacting the story Farmer Duck, where they used props and masks to play the different characters and act out the story. This develops children's Literacy skills.

The children read the story 'The Very Greedy Bee', and we explored lots of feelings throughout the book about how the various characters felt at different points in the story.

Towards the end of the story, the bee is helped across a river by floating on a leaf. We decided in class to set up an experiment to see different ways that we too could get a bee across a river that we had built. The children worked together to try different objects, looking at what floated and what sank, and what could carry the bee. The children then had to find different ways to make the bee move, such as splashing the water or blowing the objects across the surface. This was great for developing children's characteristics of learning.



What's Coming Up this Half Term?

Take a look below at some of the brilliant activities for this half term.

We'll be exploring super minibeasts this half-term and we've set up an observation station in class. We have some magnifying glasses at the ready, as the children will be gathering various minibeasts and bringing them in to class to study. We'll be on the hunt for caterpillars, beetles, bugs and slugs, as well as building our own Wormery. We've also arranged to have a visit from some Stick Insects and Giant African Land Snails.



Superheroes unite! As part of our super creatures topic we're going to be exploring all kinds of superheroes. We'll be looking at what makes a superhero, what they do to help others, who the children's favourite heroes are and what tools heroes might have to help them save the day.

This half-term is Ramadan, which is a religious event taken part in by many across the world. During Ramadan, there is a fasting period of 30 days where people think of others around them. In Nursery, we'll be taking part in acts of kindness where we can explore the children's personal, social and emotional development in considering others, working together and learning about the similarities and differences between us.

LITERACY

The books that we will be exploring this half-term are:

- Superworm
- Supertato
- George and the Dragon
- What the Ladybird Heard
- Norman the Slug with the Very Silly Shell

Mathematics

We're continuing to develop children's awareness of shapes in the environment, making arrangements with shapes and using positional language. We will be talking to the children in everyday play about what shapes they can see and how we can use these. We are also continuing to practise our counting skills and recognising numbers 1-5.

Phonics

As we head in to the last term, we are starting to introduce the children to some initial letters and sounds in line with the Read Write Inc. phonics programme that is used in Reception. We will be posting links on our Sway page each week as to which sounds we are exploring, and ideas as to how you can support this at home.

HOME LEARNING

In preparation for starting school in September, we will be sending you a school readiness checklist which you can work on with your child over the summer. Key aspects of this will focus on encouraging your child's independence, getting them to do things for themselves and talking about Reception expectations such as good listening, good sitting and good looking.