



RECEPTION NEWSLETTER

Summer 1 2019

Dear Parents,

We hope you have had a great Easter break and we welcome you back to St James the Great.

Important dates:

- Wednesday 15th May: **R2 Assembly** - 3pm in the hall
- Wednesday 22nd May: **R1 Assembly** - 3pm in the hall

General Information

- **Uniform:** Children must dress in summer uniform. Remember that girls dresses should be navy rather than light blue. Please check the weather in advance to ensure they are dressed suitably for the conditions.
- **P.E kit:** All children should have a full P.E. in school at all times. This includes a school tracksuit, polo shirt, navy blue shorts and blue, black or white (named) plimsolls or trainers. Please practise dressing and undressing with your child as much as possible, this ensures that the children can enjoy their P.E time each week.
- **Hair:** Girls should have their hair tied back at all times. Please note that hair accessories are only permitted in navy, white or black.
- **Jewellery:** reminder that girls' earrings must be small gold studs only, no other jewellery is permitted.

Topics

Plants and growing:

We begin this new term exploring our local environment. The children will look at the plants and growth, as well as the life cycles of beans and cress. Within this topic the children will discuss similarities and differences in relation to living things, they will also make observations of plants and explain changes within the natural world. We will also be making bird feeders to attract birds to the Reception Garden and making our own 'cress heads'. If you have any cardboard rolls or clean yoghurt pots that you could be in we would be very grateful.

Minibeasts:

This term we will also investigate the lives of minibeasts. We will go on nature walks and write fact files based on the insects and animals that we find. The children will develop their counting skills by reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and will learn how to sequence

days of the week. We will also learn how to tell the time when reading *The Bad-Tempered Ladybird*, looking specifically at o'clock and half past.

Literacy

Reading:

- This month we will be developing the children's awareness of rhyme and alliteration by reading poems and performing action songs.
- The children will also be applying their phonetical awareness to segment and blend the sounds in words and simple sentences.
- Pupils will be developing their comprehension skills by discussing what they have read and by answering questions.

Writing:

- The children will use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds and to write some irregular common words. Children will also be expected to use capital letters, finger spaces and full stops in their writing.
- Independent writing opportunities will be freely available in the classroom (big writing, letter writing, whiteboards etc.) In addition the children will write their own information books, 'cress diaries' and stories.

Mathematics

- This half term the children will be solving mathematical problems involved in doubling, halving and sharing.
- The children will also use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects.

We hope you have found this information useful. If you require further advice, we are available to you by appointment before or after school.

Thank you for your cooperation.

The Reception Team