

## Foundation Stage Newsletter: Summer Term 1

Dear Parents,

### Our topic this term is: Amazing Animals

During this topic we will be exploring different types of animals and learning about where they live through our 'habitat of the week' sessions. We will also learn about lifecycles, focusing on the life cycle of a frog, plant, bird and caterpillar. We will also be taking care of minibeasts we find outside in our learning garden and make bird feeders to help look after the array of birds we see around school and transform into bird spotters!

### Drawing Club

We will continue with our Drawing Club sessions three times a week linking to a focus text. Here are the books we will be using this half term:



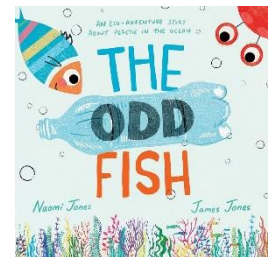
We will continue to develop drawing and writing skills by adding passcodes. We will be setting challenges to segment the sounds in words and begin to write sentences using a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop. We will continue to work within each child's cusp of confidence to support their drawing and writing development.

We will also be looking at non-fiction books to inspire our independent writing about different animals:



### Earth Day

Earth Day, celebrated on 22nd April each year, is an annual event dedicated to awareness about the various environmental challenges that face our planet. In school we will be raising awareness of the 2024 theme of 'Planet vs Plastics' by reading the book The Odd Fish and discussing key themes about how we can help reduce the use of plastic and protect our oceans.



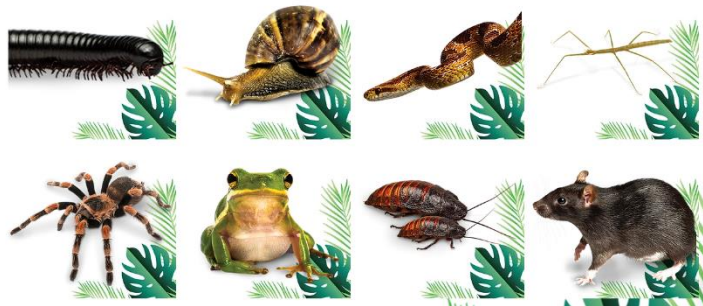
### Didi Ruby

The children will be taking part in weekly 'Didi Rugby' sessions during our PE lessons this half term. The children will be taught by a specialist coach focusing on developing fundamental movement skills

and improving balance, agility and hand-eye co-ordination. The children will wear their normal school PE kit to take part in these sessions.

### **Zoolab Workshop**

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May the children will be taking part in a Zoolab Workshop in school called Animal Explorers! How slimy is a snail? Where do tarantula's live? How do we classify frogs? The children will have a chance to get up-close and hands-on with different animals. They will be guided by an expert Zoolab Ranger and meet a menagerie of reptiles, mammals, inverts, amphibians and arachnids. We will learn what a habitat is and what it needs to include for animals to survive. Along with the importance of animal adaptations, how animals are groups, explore the effects of climate change and learn about different layers of the rainforest. Here are some of the animals that might be included in the workshop:



### **Reading and Phonics**

Thank you for supporting your child's reading development at home. When you listen to your child read at home please can you write the date, book title and a comment. We will continue to change reading books on a Tuesday and Friday. If you feel that you would like to keep the book for a little longer please just put a note in the reading record. We are working toward the Early Learning Goals of Comprehension, Word Reading and Writing:

#### **Comprehension**

- Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.
- Anticipate (where appropriate) key events in stories.
- Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role play.

#### **Word Reading**

- Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs.
- Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending.
- Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.

#### **Writing**

- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.
- Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters.
- Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.

### **Library Books**

The children have really enjoyed visiting the school library in small groups with a member of staff from the Foundation Stage Team on Monday afternoons. We hope you have been enjoying the books at home. Please bring the library book back into school on a Monday so your child can choose a new book to take home.

### **Mathematical Development**

During the next half term we will be working towards the Early Learning Goals of Number and Numerical Pattern by focusing on the following concepts during our mathematics sessions:

- Subtraction/less/fewer
- Doubling
- Looking at the staircase pattern on the number system
- Applying addition and subtraction to find a given number

- Number bonds within 5 and 10
- Composing and decomposing shapes

#### Number

- Have a deep understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number.
- Subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5.
- Automatically recall (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts.

#### Numerical Patterns

- Verbally count beyond 20, recognising the pattern of the counting system.
- Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity.
- Explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds, double facts and how quantities can be distributed equally.

We have learnt about numbers from 1-20 during our number of the week sessions, focusing on how to represent them in different ways. We will now apply this understanding in a Number Bond of the Week session each week starting with number bonds to 1. We will together as a class to use practical resources to help us think of different ways to add and subtract two numbers to make a given number e.g. to make the number 5 you could:  $2+3=5$   $4+1=5$   $6-1=5$

#### **Seesaw: Wow Moments and Home Learning**

Thank you for sharing your child's achievements (Wow Moments) and home learning on SeeSaw. It has been fantastic to see the children practising the concepts that they have learnt in school at home. Please continue to upload any achievements or experiences from home e.g. learning to ride a bike, taking part in an activity outside of school, creative activities and events with family and friends.

#### **Things to remember**

- Please make sure all items of school uniform and PE kit are named as items of clothing can easily be mixed up.
- Please bring your child's book bag into school every day with their reading book/reading record.
- Please bring library books in on Monday each week so we can change them.
- If you are providing a packed lunch for your child please remember that nuts and nut products are not allowed in school.
- Named water bottles should be brought into school every day filled with water.

We are really looking forward to another fun and exciting term in Foundation Stage. Finally, if you have any questions or wish to talk to us about any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to us at the beginning or end of the school day.

Many thanks for your support,  
Mrs Clarke, Miss Green, Mrs Saunders, Miss Allen, Miss Fairbairn, Miss White and Miss Gale

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> <i>Change Reading Books</i>	<b>Wednesday</b> Miss Gale themed days every other Wednesday	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b> <i>Change Reading Books</i>
8.45 – 9.10	<b>Busy Bee Activities and Self-Registration</b>				
9:10 – 9:40	<b>Phonics</b>				
9.40-9.50	<b>Drawing Club Input</b>	<b>Drawing Club Input</b>	<b>Drawing Club Input</b>	<b>Drawing Club Input/Maths Input</b>	<b>Celebration Assembly (10.10am)</b>
9.50 – 11.30	Drawing Club activity and exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside	Drawing Club activity and exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside	Drawing Club activity and exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside	Drawing Club activity and exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside	Exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside
	<b>Rolling Snack Throughout the Morning</b>				
11.30 – 11.45	<b>Number Bond of the Week</b>	<b>Maths Input</b>	<b>Maths Input</b>	<b>Maths Input</b>	<b>Maths Input: Number/Shape, Space and Measure Focus</b>
11.45 – 11.50	<b>Get Ready for Lunch</b>				
11.50 - 1.00	<b>Lunch Time</b>				
1.00 – 1.10	<b>Register and Mindfulness</b>				
1.10 – 1.20	<b>Handwriting</b>	<b>Creative Focus/Handwriting</b>	<b>Key Stage 1 Assembly</b>	<b>PE</b>	<b>Handwriting</b>
1.20 – 2.20	Maths activity and exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside <i>Change Library Books</i>	Maths activity/Creative activity and exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside	Maths activity and exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside	Maths activity and exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside	Maths activity and exploring time using the enhanced provision inside and outside
2.20 – 2.45	<b>Whole School Assembly</b>	<b>Topic Focus/Habitat of the week</b>	<b>Music</b>	<b>Poetry Basket</b>	<b>PSED/RE</b>
2.45 – 3.00	<b>Voting Station Story and Home Time Routine</b>				