



# Reception



April 2024

## Summer Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and carers,

It has been so lovely seeing all the children back in school. We've heard all about the lovely things they have been up too.

The excitement started on Tuesday when the incubator arrived into Carle Class. On Wednesday we numbered the eggs and put them into the incubator. We're now counting down from 21 to when we hope the eggs will hatch into baby chicks. On day 10 we will candle the eggs to see if we can see sign of life inside. I am sure the children will keep you posted but we will also put photographs on the School Blog too.

On Monday we had a visit from Cameron from Baytree. We have been selected as one of the five schools to take part in a growing competition 'Baytree's Blooming Stars 2024'. The purpose of the competition is primarily to introduce young children to the joys of growing plants. To show them the how and the why of nurturing plants from their tender beginnings to their full bloom glory. Gardening can be enjoyed by all generations and the passing of knowledge is important in all aspects of life, including gardening. We will keep them in school for a few weeks before we send them home to be nurtured, so please help your child. The competition will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August at Baytree. If you're free on this day, please take your plant to the finals. The finalists will receive a gardening goody bag and the winner from our school will win a Blooming Stars gardening pack. The overall winner will also receive a £50 voucher to spend at Baytree.

### **Topic**

During the first part of the Summer Term, we will be looking at growing through our topic 'Let's Explore!' This will include looking at how seasons change, growing seeds, life cycles of a chicken, visiting our local area and going on a minibeast hunt down in Bug's Bottom. We will also be taking part in Moulton's Flower Festival in All Saint's Church. We will hopefully be looking after chicks, from observing them hatch, to holding a one day old chick to cleaning them out and checking their food and water daily.

Carle Class Assembly will be taking place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 at 2:40pm.

McKee Class Assembly will be taking place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 2:40pm.

During the second part of the Summer Term we will be looking at the topic 'Oh, I do like to be beside the seaside!' This will involve us packing suitcases to go on holiday, writing postcards, going on a hunt to find signs of summer, exploring floating and sinking and finding out about the seaside and what can be found under the sea. To keep this half term oozing with excitement we have the Science Dome visiting. The visit will consist of dinosaurs in the morning and under the sea in the afternoon. We have Schools Game Week commencing on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June where the children will experience a new activity each day.

Sports Day is on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

Science Dome on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

### **Reading Books**

Reading is a central part of your child's learning across the whole curriculum. Your child should be reading regularly at home with you, every day. Their home reading book and interest book (provided by school) must be brought back into school every **Wednesday** so that both books can be changed. Please complete your child's reading record with comments about your child reading their reading book. With only changing the home reading book once a week, we expect your child to read their book more than once to develop accuracy and fluency. As well as reading school books, you could also choose from a range of reading materials such as poetry, instructions, comics and magazines etc. It is important to make reading a fun, enjoyable activity. We want children to develop a genuine love of reading.

### **Purple Folders**

As we teach your child a new sound, they will be put into a purple folder and sent home to be practiced. If your child is now bringing a reading book home with words, they will also be bringing home a spelling sheet. Your child will be tested on the given words every Monday and their spelling sheet will be placed in their purple folder so you can see how they got on in school.

Please ensure that their purple folder is in their book bag **every day**.

### **High Frequency Words (HFW)**

High Frequency Words are used all the time, these can be found in your child's little red book. Your child needs to be able to read these words instantly without having to sound them out.

### **Speaking and Listening**

Speaking and listening is a vital aspect of all children's education and therefore we wanted to provide more opportunities for the children to develop this skill. On a Monday, the children can bring in any suitable object or item they wish for their speaking and listening sessions, but this is not a requirement. Speaking and listening will happen over the course of a week, so please be aware that any item brought into school may not be returned before Friday. Children could use their creative streak for the themes, bring in photographs, draw pictures, objects, books, whatever will support your child to talk.

To support your child with some ideas of what they would like to discuss, please see the themes below:

Week commencing 29.04.24 – Where have you been on holiday? What was the weather like?

Week commencing 06.05.24 – How do you get to school?

Week commencing 13.05.24 – What is your favourite type of transport?

Week commencing 20.05.24 – Minibeasts

Week commencing 03.06.24 – Where in the world shall I go?

Week commencing 10.06.24 – Recognising signs of Summer

Week commencing 17.06.24 – Sporting Achievement / Favourite Sports Person

Week commencing 24.06.24 – Dinosaurs

Week commencing 01.07.24 – Under the Sea

Week commencing 08.07.24 – My favourite memories from Reception

Week commencing 15.07.24 – Pirates

### **P.E.**

Your children should have their **named** P.E. kit in school **every day** hanging on their peg. We will send it home occasionally for washing but it does need to be in school **every day**.

Carle Class have P.E. on **Tuesday** and **Friday**.

Mckee Class have P.E on **Monday** and **Thursday**.

Please ensure that any earrings are removed on these days and long hair is tied up. It is useful to think about what your child is wearing on P.E. days too. Can they put on their own tights or would socks be a better option on those days? This helps the children to feel confident and independent. Please make sure all uniform is named, even shoes.

### **Coats, Sunscreen and Hats**

Hopefully the weather will start to warm up, please make sure your child has a hat in school and named sun cream that will be kept in their tray in the classroom for them to apply when necessary. As part of the Early Years Curriculum, children in Reception have constant access to outside activities. It is therefore essential that your child has their coat in school every day. We go out in all weathers and sometimes for sustained periods of time.

### **Keeping us informed**

You must inform us if your child is going to be collected by someone else. A note in the morning put into their bookbag, or if it is a late decision, a phone call to the office would be great. We will not be able to let your child go home with anyone else unless you have told us. If you know the arrangements for the week, write a note on Monday and then we will pin it up and be able to refer to it for the week. If they will always be collected by a grandparent for example on a Monday let us know and we can write it on our board.

### **Uniform**

Please make sure that all items of clothing are named. The children have their own drawers in the classroom to put their jumpers and cardigans in, and we encourage them to look after their possessions. I can't find anything if it isn't named.

### **Familiar Faces**

If you have any queries or wish to speak to us, we are more than willing discuss them with you, so please contact the office to make an appointment, or speak to us in the playground at the end of the day.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

**Mrs Worth and the EYFS Team**