



April 2025

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to our Foundation Stage Summer term newsletter where we will discuss the topics and events we have coming up this next term. Please take the time to read this carefully and to take note of key events, dates and times.

We can't believe it's the Summer term – the year really does fly by! We have got some brilliant topics lined up for our last term. Our first topic is People Who Help Us, where we will learn about many different roles and responsibilities in everyday life. We would love to invite some parents in to talk to the children about their jobs or hobbies. Do you help people? If so, we need you! These 'Show and Tell' sessions will take place in our classrooms and need only last around 15 minutes. Previous people who have come in to talk to the children have included a paramedic, police officer, fire fighter, dentist, shop worker and many more. It would be wonderful to showcase a variety of careers – Mums, Dads, Grandparents – everyone is welcome! Please get in touch with us if this is something you could help us with. We will provide more details nearer the time if you would be happy to help.

As we move into the final half term, the children will have lots of fun with our Minibeast topic. We will be learning about lifecycles and all kinds of creepy-crawlies. To enhance their learning experience, the children will be going on their first school trip! There are lots of exciting opportunities and activities this term and we are very much looking forward to it!

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| <u>Phonics</u> | We will recap all our phase 2 & 3 phonic sounds on the sound mats. We will also recap all our phase 2 & 3 tricky words. We will be moving onto Phase 4 phonics. It is really important that your child is confident at recognising all the sounds and tricky words. Please use the sound mats regularly and practice tricky words to support your child's learning. |
| <u>Reading</u> | We are really enjoying our group reading sessions; please keep up with the home reading which counts towards the 'Reading Champions' challenge (term time reads only, max. 2 per day). Reading Champions restarts at the beginning of every half-term. Please do not forget to try to read your child's book with them as this is a good opportunity to recap on our group reading sessions. |
| <u>Literacy</u> | We will continue to apply our phonic knowledge, practicing pencil control and letter formation. We are focusing on writing small captions and phrases, alongside building and understanding the structure of a sentence. |
| <u>Maths</u> | We will focus on creating an in-depth knowledge of numbers to 20. We will look at number formation, odd and even numbers with doubling and sharing, adding and taking away and 2d/3d shapes and repeating patterns. |
| <u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u> | We will be understanding how to care for living things in the environment and be preparing for our transition into year 1. |

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| <u>Expressive arts and design</u> | We will be learning new skills including sewing and we will continue to develop our clay techniques. |
| <u>Understanding the world</u> | A topic that we really enjoy is People Who Help Us. We will be asking for volunteers to come in to talk about their job, so if you would be willing to join in, that would be wonderful! We also enjoy our topic of Minibeasts where we will get a delivery of some very tiny visitors! |
| <u>Physical Development</u> | Our outdoor PE sessions will be on a <u>Monday</u> for the rest of the year. <u>Children must come dressed in PE kit each Monday.</u> In <u>Summer 2 only</u> , we will be also participating in Forest School on a <u>Tuesday</u> . Please come dressed in old, long sleeved suitable clothes. |
| <u>Communication and Language</u> | The children will be given opportunities to present and talk about their work and we will practise our story language by retelling stories in our own words – and even writing our own stories! |

Outdoor PE

From **Monday 28th April**, PE will be outdoors every Monday for the rest of the school year. Children need to come to school dressed in PE kit please. We have our usual PE uniform expectations of dark blue or black hoodies and bottoms (joggers or shorts) and a plain white t-shirt. Don't forget to name all items of clothing including wellies.

Forest School

On **Tuesday 3rd June** (Summer 2) the children will begin their Forest School sessions with our Forest School teacher Ruth Patterson. These sessions are carefully planned and provide a bridge to our curriculum where the children can further develop their learning in the outdoor environment – this links brilliantly to our Minibeast topic! They take place in the woods in our school grounds and sometimes the children may even enjoy a hot chocolate and a biscuit around the fire pit at the end of a session!

Every **Tuesday from 3rd June**, please send your child into school wearing a warm, long sleeved top, zip up hoodie/fleece, long trousers or jogging bottoms and trainers. Although we are branching out into the better weather, it can still be unpredictable. Your child may have their wellies and waterproofs already in school. Please feel free to check that their wellies and waterproofs still fit them but they may still need them for our sessions. The weather may get muddy, so 'old playing out clothes' are recommended and can be any colour for Forest School sessions.

Reading Champions

Reading Champions will begin Tuesday 22nd April. The children continue to partake in Reading Champions right up until the end of year 2. This is to promote a love of reading and reward children for the super reading they do at home! We are really proud of the number of Reading Champions we had last term and hope to beat our number this half term! A 'read' could be any form of reading e.g. shopping list, magazine, shop signs, recipes, school reading book, e-book, library book or any book from home. We recommend that you read with your child for 5 / 10 minutes every night. Every time an adult from home e.g. mum, dad, grandma, grandad etc, reads with your child they must **sign and date the reading record** (26.04.25 George read well, he really enjoyed the story. Dad). We will then count up the reads weekly and record when your child is a Reading Champion.

This half term we are aiming for 25 reads, with a max of 2 reads counted per day.

Our FS and KS1 Reading Champions assembly will be on the last week of each half-term.

Stay and Play

This term, we are hoping to have our final 'stay and play' session where we invite our grown-ups in to come and experience our Foundation Stage classrooms! This is a max of 2 adults per child. Please meet at the main entrance just before the start time.

Class 1 Stay and play – Monday 16th June 2.15pm

Class 2 Stay and Play –Tuesday 17th June 2.15pm

School trip

On Thursday 19th June we will be embarking on the children's first school trip. We will be going to Tropical World in Leeds. There has already been a provisional letter sent out and there will be a letter closer to the time containing further details about the day.

Please be aware in the first week back we will be sending home a lunch order card. This will only be for the children that usually receive a school dinner on a Thursday. We will send this out on the first day back of the Summer term (22nd April) and we would like this returned by the following day (23rd April) so we can order the correct number of lunches.

We are in need of a couple of extra adults to support our trip and we would like to open the invite to parents. If you are available on Thursday 19th June and would like to help, please email your child's class teacher. Thank you for your support.

Sports Day-Provisional date **Thursday 26th June**. You are welcome to come and watch. More detail will follow nearer the time.

Foundation Stage class Assembly – **Friday 4th July -9.15am** in the school hall. Grown-ups are welcome to attend. Please come to the main entrance after dropping your child off to class.

Name reminder

Please ensure **all** items of clothing, bags and water bottles are named, this includes jumpers, hats, scarves, gloves, waterproofs, wellies and sun hats. We will periodically leave the lost property box outside the classrooms after school so please have a look through. We aim to rehome items as soon as possible, however after a period of time we will donate them to the Uniform Exchange. Thank you!

As the weather hopefully warms up, please ensure that on hot days your child comes to school with sun cream already applied and with a water bottle (containing only water) every day.

Please read our fortnightly Headlines newsletter as this will contain dates for Class photographs and other events.

Please feel free to ask if you have any queries or problems.
Thank you for your continuing interest and support.

The Foundation Stage team

Class 1 – Mrs Wimpenny and Mrs Spittlehouse

Class 2 – Mrs Osborne and Mrs Charlton

PPA staff – Mrs Stier and Ms Mottram