



## Nursery Summer Term Newsletter



This newsletter is to tell you all about what will be happening during the Summer Term in Lion cubs Nursery class!

The summer term is always a busy term as we prepare the children for their journey into the Reception class in September. We will be working hard this half term on our independent skills, number recognition, phonics and name writing to make sure all our children get a flying start to their reception year!

Please make sure you check our web page to see some photographs of the activities and learning opportunities that we have taken part in this half term. This can be found at: [www.maidstoneinfants.org](http://www.maidstoneinfants.org)



### Theme



Our new theme for the Summer term is 'Planting and Growing.' We have started the topic by exploring the story Jack and the Beanstalk and also looking at alternative version of this story 'Jim and the Beanstalk' by the author Raymond Briggs. We have planted our own beanstalks and the children will be bringing these home in the coming weeks to grow beanstalks in their own gardens at home. We will also be planting sunflowers and exploring the lifecycles of plants and animals. We will be looking after tadpoles in the Nursery and observing the changes they go through. We will also be hatching our own chicks and butterflies and caring for them together.

As always, we will use a range of stories to deepen our understanding of our topic. Please make sure you check our 'reading' board in the Nursery so you can see the front covers of the books we have been sharing. You are always welcome to borrow these stories to share at home as long as they are cared for and brought back ☺



### Snack



We will continue to ask for a donation of 50p per week towards our Nursery snack. Your donations allow us to provide a range of snacks to supplement the free fruit and milk received by the school. We try to ensure the children have the opportunity to try a range of tastes, textures and have opportunities to be involved in making their own snack such as buttering toast or crackers. We also use this money to purchase ingredients for cooking activities. Donations can be given to any member of nursery staff.

Thank you very much for your donations this half term, they are much appreciated.



### PE



Our PE sessions will continue to take place on a Wednesday in the school hall. This term we will be encouraging the children to change into PE kits for the session. Please send named PE kits into Nursery in a named PE bag. We encourage the children to change themselves for PE as this greatly enhances their independent skills in preparation for Reception. We are always on hand to help any children who need us though. **Please ensure that earrings are removed before coming to Nursery on Wednesdays.**



### Phonics



We have made a flying start in our phonics sessions! So far, we have learnt the sounds s,a,t,p,i, n, m, d, g, o, c, k

It is really important that when pronouncing each sound we use the 'purest' sound possible, rather than adding an 'u' sound. For example the 's' sound should be pronounced 'sssss' rather than 'su.'

This term we will be practising the skill of 'blending' the sounds together to form words. This is taught through 'robot talking;' saying each sound individually and then blending them together. Eg: s-a-t

Mrs Veal will be sending home an information sheet about 'Robot Talking' including lots of ideas for home.

For the correct pronunciation of the phonic sounds please see:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ksbIMiliA8>

For the jolly phonics songs used to reinforce the sounds please see:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HeSRggRoz\\_U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HeSRggRoz_U)

For games and activities using letters and sounds please see

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)



Thank you for the amazing support we have had at our shared reading sessions, your support is vital in helping us to nurture a love of reading for the children. Shared reading will take place on Thursday's from now on with the last session of each half term being an opportunity to share your child's learning journey folder with them.

We are also hoping to run some 'hands on' stay and play sessions during the Summer Term- watch this space!

There will be a sports day for Nursery this term; we will put the date up as soon as we can so that you can make arrangements to attend.

We love to see your 'News from Home' slips, you are always welcome to take these from the entrance area and fill them in. All slips are displayed on our WOW board. These slips will be put into your child's learning journey file.

Please remember that we are always happy to listen and help should you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs Veal, Mrs Murton and Miss Coniam