

Early Years Summer Term Newsletter



Follow us on Facebook
and Twitter

Happy New Year

Welcome back to school for the Summer term. We hope you had a restful Easter break. We can hardly believe we are in the last term of the school year. Hopefully we will be enjoying warmer weather.

As the warm weather approaches, please make sure your child brings a sun hat to school and that they have sun cream on. We will have Nivea children's sun cream in the classroom to apply on very hot days please speak to Mrs Carr or Mrs Bradley if you DO NOT want us to put sun cream on your child.

Routines

Our regular weekly activities will be as follows:

Thursday – Forest Schools Please continue to send forest clothes in a named bag ready for an afternoon outside. As it becomes warmer, they may need thinner waterproof trousers and coat and may need a sun hat (we can hope!). On very dry days, waterproofs may be replaced with long trousers and long sleeves so that arms and legs are still protected from scratches.

Friday – PE Please ensure PE kit is in school at all times. Your child will need trainers for when PE is outside. If you found any items of PE kit that do not belong to your child over the Easter break, please send it back to school so we can reunite it with its owner!

Friday – Library Please continue to send library books in on a Friday, so your child can choose a new one.



Top Tips for reading:

Reading for a short time everyday greatly improves the progress children make. These top tips may help:

- **Little and often is good**—5 minutes a day is better than once a week
- **Re-reading the same book builds confidence and fluency**—children begin to see themselves as readers as they become familiar with the text. They may recognise or remember words without the need to blend.
- **Re-reading the same book helps with understanding**—when a child is familiar with the text they can begin to concentrate on what it means as they don't need to work as hard to blend and remember words
- **Remembering the text is a step on the way to reading**—draw attention to particular words by asking children to find them in the text.
- **Continue to model reading**—read books other than school reading books with your child.

Please make sure reading books and planners are in book bags and brought to school **every day**.

We have almost learnt all the sounds for this year and the children are becoming better at using them in their reading and their writing. Please continue to practice playing I spy, making up rhymes and blending sounds to read words, as well as having fun talking about books and stories, and making sure that the children read for enjoyment.

Independence

We love the way the children are becoming more independent. As we approach the end of Early Years, we are continuing to encourage independence. Your child should be able to come in to school on their own, put away their belongings and self-register. Please say goodbye to your child at the door and encourage them to come in alone. If you need to speak to a member of staff, there is always someone at the classroom door to help.



Learning

This term we will continue to follow the children's interests and we will be teaching and extending their learning through their play. We are looking forward to developing our newly fenced Phase 1 outdoor area and will be raising money to buy some new resources.

We will continue to tell our stories and act them out on a daily basis. The children are developing their speaking and storytelling skills and it is exciting to see the progress in the types of stories they tell and the language they use. Many of the children have begun writing stories themselves to be acted out with the class.

We will be reading the book 'Superworm' this half term and setting up our own wormery.



In our phonics this half term, we will be consolidating the sounds we have learnt so far, introducing the remaining sounds and continuing to practise blending (putting sounds together – r-ai-n = rain, and segmenting – splitting words up into their sounds – chair= ch-air). We will continue to learn to read some common words (words that can't be blended). Please continue to support your child by helping them to 'tune in' to sounds by playing games such as I spy, listening to and making up rhymes and orally blending and segmenting.

In maths we will continue to learn about adding and subtracting numbers and looking at how numbers work and are put together. Each day we will use our maths skills to work out the date, pay for fruit (with toy money) as well as exploring numbers around the classroom.

Observations

We are in our final round of observations of three children each week who we will spend more time working with and observing. You will be sent a letter telling you that your child will be observed the following week. There will also be another opportunity to come into school to meet staff and discuss progress.

Towards the end of the year, we will assess the children against the **Early Learning Goals**. These assessments will be reported to City of York Council and to yourselves, as well as being the focus for discussions with the Year 1 staff in preparation for their transition in September. There will be a short meeting to explain what these assessments are all about on **Thursday 9th May at 9am**. Please make every effort to be there so that you are fully informed about the process and what you can do to help.

Other important dates

Monday 6th May

School closed for Bank Holiday Monday

Thursday 9th May

9.00am Meeting about the Early Years' End of Year Assessments

Friday 24th May

School closes for half term

Monday 3rd June

School reopens for second half of the summer term

1-5th July

Whole school Outdoor Learning Week (more details to follow)

Friday 12th July

Phase 1 sports afternoon (please note that EY and Y1 will not be involved in the sports afternoon on 5th July)