



Spring Term 2018 Information

Dolphins and Turtles Classes

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year, we hope you had a good Christmas break. Welcome to the beginning of our very exciting new spring term. We are looking forward to introducing our new topics together with a lot more fun and interesting learning for the children to be involved in.

Independence

As part of our Personal and Social development skills we would like to encourage the children to develop their independence and confidence further by doing such things as continuing to come into school independently, plus doing up or undoing coats and changing for P.E. without help, we would appreciate your support with this. We will, of course, still remain available if you need to speak with us. If there are any different arrangements for your child's collection please inform us in advance, preferably in writing. Thank you.

Curriculum

This term we will be learning about the following:

Spring

Once Upon a Time

This half term:

- We will be looking at Traditional Stories and the characters in them
- We will be continuing to develop our phonic knowledge and to continue to apply this to our reading and writing.
- We will be developing our handwriting skills and begin to write for a purpose.
- We will be developing our understanding of numbers to 20 and of 3D shapes.
- We will be developing our 'core stability', balance and spatial awareness and throwing and catching skills in PE
- We will be learning how to use a variety of technologies and school's computer network and access a range of programs to achieve a range of outcomes.
- We will be looking at setting ourselves achievable targets through our PSHCE theme 'Me and My World/Conflict Resolution'.

Dinosaurs & Space

For the second half term we will continue to develop some of the work started in the first half term as well as:

- Using investigative skills to explore dinosaurs and space
- Looking at a range of books and text types (fiction and non-fiction, rhyming and non-rhyming) to support our topic.
- Creating patterns using a range of media and investigating 'what works best'.
- Developing a greater understanding of the vocabulary involved in addition and subtraction of two single digit numbers as well as sorting and sharing into groups.
- Using audio and video tools to record ourselves and others.

If you participate in any activities or visits that support your child's learning we would love to hear about them e.g. museum visits, journeys, postcards from foreign places.

Parent/Carer sessions

Thank you to everyone who joined us for reading and creative sessions last term. The children really enjoyed being able to share their learning with you. This term we will be organising drop in sessions for phonics to give you the opportunity to see how your child

learns and applies their knowledge. We are just finalising dates and times so look out for a letter with further information.

Home learning

- Reading Ideally, try to listen to or share a book with your child for a short period each day, e.g. 10 minutes. And work on developing their recognition of the 'tricky' words in their 'word wallets' and, when they are confident in their recognition, help them to develop their ability to write the words. We encourage parents to read to or with their child every day and please use the reading diaries to record their progress. Please send book bags into school every day as we will be reading with your child as often as possible.
- Wow Slips It is part of the assessment requirements for children in Foundation that evidence of their learning and development is gathered from as wide a range of sources as possible, including home. If you see or hear your child do or say something you think may contribute to this, or do something for the first time, or achieve some personal milestone, please can you let us know by filling out a Wow Slip or recording the event on Tapestry. The children love to have their experiences read out in class and they help us to show 'the whole child'. Wow Slips are available from class or to print out from the school website.

Uniform and P.E Kits

The children still look very smart in their school uniforms – thank you. This contributes to a positive learning environment and we hope that this will continue. To further help with this, please could you ensure *all* uniform and P.E. kit is clearly named, especially as children may have had new clothes/shoes since the beginning of term or names may have faded with washing. If clothes are named we are more able to return them to your child. P.E. kit needs to remain in school from Monday to Friday as sessions may change due to hall availability or unforeseen circumstances. A P.E. kit comprises of: black shorts and white T-shirt (please no leggings or jogging bottoms). Plimsolls will not be needed until the summer term

Following school and county policy, we would like to remind you that jewellery, including earrings, should be removed for P.E and that long hair should be tied back. Please can you help your child to remove their earrings, if they wear them, on known PE days and ensure they have some means of tying back hair in their PE kit if needed (plastic 'Alice bands' are not suitable). P.E. for both classes is on a **Wednesday**.

In addition, as the cold weather continues please can you make sure that your child has the appropriate **named** clothing e.g. a thick coat, gloves, hat, scarf and wellies as we do go outside in most weather conditions.

Our stock of spare clothes is almost empty and it would really help if you could ensure your child has a spare set of clothes (non-uniform is fine) in school. Can we please ask for spare clothing sent home to be returned. Thank you.

Sickness

If your child is unwell in the morning please do not send them into school. If a child is sent home from school owing to a stomach upset we do not expect them to return for at least 48 hours from the last episode of illness. We ask this to prevent illnesses spreading.

Should you have any other issues or queries you wish to discuss please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Marsden, Mrs McKeating and Mrs Roebuck