



Hedgehogs Term 5 Newsletter



Welcome to Term 5

Welcome back! We hope you had an egg-cellent Easter break! We can't quite believe we are already entering the summer terms and only have 12 school weeks left with you all! This means we will all be working a little bit harder to make sure we are as ready for Year 1 as we can be.

This Terms Topic

Our topic this term is Tell Me a Story! We will be using some of our favourite stories to further develop our story telling, comprehension and reading. We will start the term with a family favourite Dear Zoo before moving on to The Three Little Pigs, The Three Billy Goats Gruff and We're Going on a Bear Hunt.

Over the next two terms we will be working on developing independence when completing work-based challenges rather than relying on an adult. We will do this slowly to ensure all children become confident in their own abilities.

RWI

We have all been making good progress in our RWI groups and we have enjoyed seeing the videos that some of you have uploaded to your Tapestry accounts of your reading at home. All children were assessed at the end of the term and our three RWI groups have been adapted accordingly. Our groups will be working on their Set 1 sounds including 'Special Friends', oral blending, reading Green Words cards, recalling some Red Words. Those in Mrs Cousins and Mrs Donnell's group will be recapping the Set 2 Sounds, reading Green Word Cards at speed, using Fred in Your Head, recalling Red Word and reading longer sentences.

Please continue to read with your child every day in short sharp bursts this can also include you reading books to them as well as them reading to you.

Literacy

Our Literacy focuses will be based upon the topic book we are reading. We will be using a mixture of Drawing Club and other literacy-based activities that may include story maps, wanted posters, character descriptions and speech bubbles.

We are continuing to work on our confidence to write independently. When writing we ask the children to think of their own sentence, then to repeat it several times to 'hold their sentence', they are then asked to write it down remembering to sound each word out as they go. If they forget their next word, we encourage them to read what they have already written to help them remember. There's a video on Tapestry to help support you with this at home. When writing at home, please encourage your child to sound out their words rather than giving them the spelling or copying it down.

Maths

This term we are really focusing on a deeper understanding of the number system. We will be counting increasingly large amount of objects including arrangements that cannot be moved. We will be looking at how numbers to 10 can be arranged on dice frames, numbers frames and on our fingers. This will lead on to further exploration of basic addition in the form of the part, part, whole method. This is where the children look at how each number can be made of two or more parts; i.e. two or more smaller numbers. We will finish the term looking at number tracks. Playing games along number tracks to develop our ability to count on or back from a range of numbers. We will also be looking at the relationship between numbers on a track. For example, 4 and 5 are next to each other because there is only one between them however 2 and 10 are far apart because there are 8 spaces between them.

Request for Resources

We are really appreciative of all the resources you have kindly donated so far this year. This term we would really love to continue improving our outdoor provision. We have large raised planter which we would love to fill with herbs and vegetables for us to grow and then use in our sand kitchen. To support this, we would be very grateful for any donations of;

- Compost / soil
- Seeds / bulbs / plant cuttings
- Outdoor paint for the planter

If any one would like to take on the challenge of creating a lid for our Tractor tyre to keep the sand clean we would be very appreciative.

Thank you for your support.

Tapestry

Thank you all for your continued support and engagement on Tapestry. We really do love to see photos of your days out, and any learning that you are doing at home, especially those moments that make you think WOW!

Home observations are very useful in the Early Years as we often get told "but they do it at home" so this is the perfect opportunity for you to show us. If you would like some support in using Tapestry then please let us know.

Snacks!

A polite reminder that every child needs a healthy snack and a water bottle at school every day please. To be in line with our snack policy, please ensure your child's snack follows our school snack policy which can be found on the website.

The children have access to their water bottles all day and we encourage them to drink regularly, many children refill their empty bottles after lunch.

The children are offered water or milk with their lunch, rather than using their water bottle. We ensure that each child drinks at least one cup with their lunch.

Week Commencing 28th April

Just to let you know that during this week Mrs Cousins and Mrs Munn will be part of the staff team taking Year 5 on their PGL Residential. Therefore, Miss Hipkiss (our Year 5 teacher) will be teaching the class on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with Mrs Cook as the class TA in the mornings. Mrs Donnell will be in class on Thursday and Friday with Mrs Morton as the class TA in the mornings. Mrs Capon will also be assisting the class all day.

Reading Books

Reading books will continue to be collected in on a Monday with new books coming home on a Tuesday. Thank you to those writing a short statement on how their child has read with them. Please remember to write a comment in their diaries and to also work through some of the comprehension questions (found within the books). **We will only change reading books if you have written a comment on how your child has read.**

We are changing how we read with your children at school. Whilst reading 1:1 with every child was wonderful to hear, it did take one of us out of provision for big chunks of the day. **From this term we will read 1:1 with the children who are in Mrs Munn's and Mrs Smith's RWI groups** (your child will know which group they are in). Please ensure they bring their reading books and diaries into school every day. The children in Mrs Cousins and Mrs Donnell's group are heard reading in RWI every day. We will write a note in their diary every now and then to let you know how they are getting on.

As well as books being changed on a Monday, those on Red and Green Books will also be bringing home the book they have been reading in their RWI lessons. Please ensure they have their small green wallets in their bags on a Thursday so we can change them at the end of the week.

Reading Mornings

Thank you for your support with last terms reading mornings. This term we would like to continue to invite you come into class once a week but the sessions will be slightly different. We will set up different learning activities for you to do with small groups of children to develop their love of reading, maths or creative ideas. The children will be moving round in their groups so may not be with you for the full session. We will plan 6 activities per week so can only have up to six parents in one session. With this in mind, please let us know if you are attending the sessions on our Weekly Activity Session post on Tapestry so we can plan the activities accordingly.

Dates of these sessions will be on:

- Friday 2nd May AM
- Thursday 8th May AM
- Wednesday 14th May PM
- Tuesday 20th May AM

AM sessions are from 9 to 9:30 and the PM Sessions from 2:45 to 3:15.

Unfortunately, younger siblings will not be able to attend these sessions.

Thanks for taking the time to read our Newsletter – Any questions or queries please come and see either Mrs Cousins, Mrs Donnell or Mrs Munn.