



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

*Aim High*

*Never Give Up*

*Follow Your Dream*

*Lead By Example*

May 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your support throughout our theme of 'Under the Sea'. We have enjoyed learning about sharks, penguins and many types of fish. All of the children showed a huge interest in this theme, particularly at the Sea Life centre where everyone demonstrated fantastic and exemplary behaviour. The children have really grown in confidence and maturity throughout their Reception year and it has been great to see how many achievements the children have made during the final year of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This letter will outline what we are looking at during their final half term in Reception!

### **INTERGRATED CURRICULUM**

Next half term we will be focusing our learning around the theme of 'Minibeasts'.

We will be basing the learning around a range of topics that relate to Minibeasts, such as:

- Food chains
- Patterns and design
- Plant systems
- Habitats
- Life stages

We will continue to incorporate your child's interests in to our planning so please inform a member of the Reception team if your child has a new hobby, out of school activity or interest that we can all learn about!

### **POW PROJECT**

Our 'POW Project' for the theme of Minibeasts is to create a display about one type of Minibeast. You could create a poster of the life of a ladybird or produce an information book on how a caterpillar looks different during its life. Any POW projects sent into school will be shown to the whole class and put on show at the Reception class entrance. We will return any projects by the end of the half term.

### **READ, WRITE, INC**

The Reception children have made huge progress in their reading and writing skills. It is great to see all children independently choosing books to read and attempting to read the story to themselves or friends. We are continuing with Read Write Inc to ensure that every child is challenged appropriately to further develop their skills in reading and writing. As you are aware, children are currently being sent home with reading books to read at home. These books are suited to your child's current level of reading and will have some words that are more challenging to extend their learning. You can support the reading of these books at home by helping your child to sound out the trickier words and making a note of these in their reading log. We currently change reading books on a **Friday afternoon**, which gives your child a full week to immerse themselves in the language and vocabulary of each book.

### **MATHEMATICS**

For our final half term, the children will be focusing on a range of mathematical topics to prepare them for the level of work in Year One. We will be exploring how we can change numbers and quantities by doubling and halving and developing our skills in estimation. We will also be building upon our knowledge of addition and subtraction by looking at some simple word problems. We will be exploring shape in much greater detail by investigating properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

If you have any questions about how you could support your child's maths learning at home, please ask a member of the Reception team. Also, please ensure that you check the school website to find a breakdown of the learning that the children will be exploring each week.



## **TRANSITION TO YEAR ONE**

A large part of the next half term will involve preparing the children for their journey into Year One. The whole school will take part in a 'Move Up day'. On this day, the children will meet their Year One teacher and will have an opportunity to explore their new classroom. This is a great chance for the children to experience the day as a Year One child.

To help support a smooth and easy transition, we ask that parents begin to support their children by entering the classroom independently in the morning. This will prepare your child for Year 1, which is when parents are asked not to enter the classroom in the morning. If you need to discuss anything with an adult, a member of the Reception team will be outside the cloakroom door. If you have any concerns or would like more information on how to support your child through this transition, please let a member of the Reception team know so that we are able to offer some guidance.

## **PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT**

We will be inviting Dads, Grandads, Brothers or Uncles in your child's family to a Father's Day assembly. This will be on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2015** at 9.00am. Please sign in at the office and we will be assembled in the school hall.

We are also inviting all parents/carers into the Reception classroom for a Minibeast hunt. We will be exploring behind the large playground in the bushes and grass to find some creepy crawlies! This will be on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2015** at **2:30 – 3:15pm**. Please enter the school via the school office and then you will be guided to the Reception classroom.

## **HEALTH CARE**

As the warmer weather is fast approaching, we are encouraging children to think about how to take care in the sun. We are advising children to bring a sunhat to school, which is clearly named, to wear during outdoor play activities. If your child requires sun cream throughout the day, please provide a member of the Reception team with a named bottle to store safely in the classroom. Your child must be able to apply the sun cream by themselves, under the supervision of an adult.

## **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Our Physical Development time will continue to be Wednesday mornings; however children will have access to develop their physical skills through the indoor and outdoor areas. We continue to ask that you ensure a **clearly named** kit is in school at all times. The kit uniform includes:

- A suitable bag to remain on your child's peg
- Plain White T-Shirt
- Black/Grey Shorts
- Plimsolls/Trainers
- Black/Grey Jogging Bottoms

A reminder that all long hair should be tied back and stud earrings are to be covered with plasters (that are provided from home); all other forms of jewellery are **not** permitted.

## **LOST PROPERTY**

It is vital that **all items** of your child's clothing are named, including shoes. As personal items are difficult to recognise, named items will enable members of the team to identify your child's clothing immediately. If unnamed items of clothing are found, they will be placed in the Lost Property box in the children's cloakroom which you are welcome to search through.

Thank you once again for your support throughout this half term and we look forward to working with you once again during your child's final half term in Reception!

Mr L Alletson  
Class Teacher

Miss J Greenwood  
HLTA

Mrs D Reynolds  
Head Teacher

