



Ladybirds Newsletter January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to you all. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and wish you all a very Happy New Year. Thank you very much for all the cards and gifts we received for Christmas. It was very kind of you and much appreciated by us all.



This half term we will be focusing on the topic of 'Dinosaurs' and lots of our learning activities will be linked to this including re-telling a story, acting it out, finding out facts, exploring dinosaur eggs and creating lots of exciting art work!

We will continue with our learning outside and in the winter months it is essential that the children have a warm coat, hat, scarf, gloves and sturdy shoes in school for these outdoor sessions. It is also really important that they can put these items on independently and do their zips up. If you could help them to practise this at home it would be really appreciated.



Please note that there will be no Forest School for this half term, as it is the rest period for the area. Weather permitting we will continue after February half term.

The children continue to make progress with learning their letter sounds/digraphs but we do need your additional support at home to consolidate their learning in school. As stated in the previous newsletter, they need to be able to recognise the letters/digraphs from sight, sound them out, form them correctly and use them to build words when reading and writing.



Please also continue to share your child's reading books and library books. Do try to listen to your child read **every day** as this is extremely important and helps to foster a love of books and ensure your child makes good progress.

Please initial their Reading Record so that we know they have read and write any comments that you would like to share.

We have planned several new technology experiences for the children and are keen to find out what experiences they have at home e.g. programmable toys, tablets, xbox, and what programs they use. We will be sending out a questionnaire for you to fill in so keep an eye out for it in your child's bookbag!



Our 'workshop' tables continue to be a very popular experience for the children and we are always in need of buttons, cardboard rolls, boxes, plastic trays and other 'junk' items. If you are able to donate any of these items please pass them on to a member of the team.

Finally, if there is anything that you would like to discuss, please feel free to request an informal chat at any time.

The Early Years Team ☺

Communication and Language

We will:

- talk about our own Christmas experiences and share our wishes for the New Year.
- retell a story using a story map and actions.
- listen to stories and predict what's going to happen next.
- ask and answer questions related to our stories and create alternative endings.
- be listening to each other when sharing facts about dinosaurs.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

We will:

- revisit school rules and discuss why they are important.
- be sharing our ideas and learning about dinosaurs.
- be working together in a respectful way, which is linked to our school value.
- be more aware of 'how to keep safe online'.

Physical Development

We will:

- be using dinosaurs as our inspiration to move rhythmically to music.
- be taking part in team games with a dinosaur theme.
- continue to develop our fine motor skills using various tools and equipment safely.
- learn about a healthy diet and other things that contribute to good health.

Literacy

We will:

- be writing our New Year's Resolutions.
- be using story maps and actions to retell the story of Dinosaur Roar.
- be writing about our own dinosaur characters.
- be writing facts about dinosaurs.
- be using stories, pictures and videos to develop our comprehension skills.

January 2019

Dinosaurs



Mathematics

We will:

- be finding one more and one less of numbers.
- be making addition and subtraction number sentences.
- be problem solving with numbers in a practical way.
- be singing number rhymes such as Five Little Ducks and Ten in the Bed.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will:

- be drawing self-portraits.
- be making colourful sock puppet dinosaurs.
- be making salt dough dinosaurs.
- be exploring the sounds of instruments to recreate the sounds of dinosaurs.
- be making dinosaur skeletons using cotton buds.
- Be learning songs about dinosaurs.

Understanding the world

We will:

- share our experiences of where and how we celebrated Christmas.
- be looking at pictures of fossils and discussing what we think they are.
- be talking about the similarities and differences about dinosaurs.
- be talking about what carnivore and herbivores are and linking this to healthy eating.
- be talking about what makes our world wonderful.