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Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn



16<sup>th</sup> January 2018



Dear Parents,

A happy New Year and welcome to the Spring term!

On **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 5:30pm** I would like to invite all Reception parents to the school to discuss the term ahead and new workshops that you will be invited to. It is also a great opportunity to discuss anything you are not sure about such as Phonics, the Singapore bar and reading at home.



This term our new topic is On the Farm. The children will be learning about farm animals, machinery and the people involved on a farm. This topic is great fun and the children will learn lots! We are also planning on taking a topic related trip but more information will be given closer to the time. Attached to this letter is the topic web giving you a breakdown of what we hope to achieve.



Our topic involves a lot of hands on experiences and lots of them will be outside, please ensure that your children brings a warm, waterproof coat every day.

A date for your diary, on the 5<sup>th</sup> February your child will be taking part in a dance festival with the rest of the class at Dorchester Middle School. The event starts at 1:30 pm until 2:30 pm if you would like to attend please meet us there.

Small reminder: Please make sure you bring your child to school in their school clothes on Wednesday with the PE bag. We will get them changed after lunch and they will be sent home in their kit.

Any questions or queries please feel free to ask.

Many thanks

Miss Libby  
Reception Class Teacher

<p><u>Personal, Social &amp; Emotional Development</u>  Reception have made a fantastic start to their school lives and made lots of positive friendships! We will be continuing this development through problem solving and circle time ensuring we are aware of how others feel and how to be a good friend.  We will be trying to develop our confidence enabling us to think about what we are good at and share our ideas when facing a new activity or challenge.  Linked to this we are going to be thinking about when we need help and who may help us if we are stuck.  Our topic on the Farm will also give us opportunities to think about caring for something other than ourselves and working as a team.</p>	<p><u>Communication and Language</u>  Our topic this half term gives the children a lot of opportunity to learn new vocabulary, ask questions and explain their own knowledge. With focussing on building the children's confidence a way this will happen is through talking to their peers about what they have learnt. The children will be undertaking a project for their home learning and will be sharing that information with their friends.  We will also continue our Talk for Writing with some focus stories linked to our topic that the children will learn. Our first story will be The Little Red Hen. Once we have learnt the story we will then make changes to create our own!</p>	<p><u>Physical Development</u>  The children's physical development both fine and gross motor is improving dramatically. They have been learning how to roll a ball to a specific place and move with control to a safe space. This term our focus in PE is dance. We shall be linking this to our topic and thinking of ways to move to the music in preparation for a dance festival. We will continue our Funky fingers work helping us to build our fine motor muscles.  We will be thinking very carefully about how to look after ourselves and keep healthy. Later in the term we will be looking at our diet and exploring different healthy foods. Now that we are getting changed for PE on Wednesday, Miss Libby will also be looking to see who can dress independently.</p>
<p><u>Maths</u>  This term the children will be helping Miss Libby to solve lots of her farm problems. Counting the animals, adding two groups of animals and finding out how many animals are left when some disappear! We will be focussing heavily on number bond knowledge and our understanding of teen numbers. (This is also a tricky concept so please support at home with the Tapestry home learning.)  We will also begin thinking about measure and finding out about what we measure. We will be recording the height, length and weight of some special visitors as well as finding lots of other things to measure.</p>	<p><i>Reception Class Topic Web</i>  <i>Spring Term 2018</i></p> <p><i>On the Farm</i></p> 	<p><u>Literacy</u>  The children have been brilliant at learning their set 1 sounds and will now begin to learn set 2. This can be confusing so lots of home support is needed. (refer to Tapestry for our new sounds each week.) We will be learning The Little Red Hen and making adaptations to form our own story. We are going to be accessing lots of books linked to our topic and finding out new information.  The children are going to be working on being an independent writer and knowing how / what resources help.</p>
<p><u>Understanding the World</u>  Our Topic this term provides us with so many opportunities to develop in this area. We will begin to understand the different occupations surrounding farm life such as farmer, vet, machine driver, mechanic and thinking about whether it is a role we would like to do. We will be learning about the different machines found on a farm and find out about their purpose. We will be learning to care for living things in our environment and make observations about the changes that happen. We will also compare our own environment with a farm to look for similarities and differences.</p>	<p><u>Exploring Art &amp; Design</u>  The children will be combining media to create different effects and exploring how colours can be made/ changed. We will think carefully about how to use tools and techniques in order to complete a project.  This term we will be designing and making our own puppet making a farm animal to help us tell the newly adapted version of The Little Red Hen. We will be learning how to sew the material together and chose suitable materials for this purpose. We will look closely at the animal to help us create an accurate representation.</p>	<p><u>Exploring Art &amp; Design</u>  The children will be combining media to create different effects and exploring how colours can be made/ changed. We will think carefully about how to use tools and techniques in order to complete a project.  This term we will be designing and making our own puppet making a farm animal to help us tell the newly adapted version of The Little Red Hen. We will be learning how to sew the material together and chose suitable materials for this purpose. We will look closely at the animal to help us create an accurate representation.</p>