



## Reception Curriculum Information

Week beginning: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Dear Parents

After the long weekend, the children returned excited to see how their caterpillars had changed since Friday. We were amazed at how much they had grown; some of the caterpillars measured more than 1cm in length; remarkable considering the tiny dots they were just over a week ago!

Mrs Harries led an assembly about St Julian of Norwich. Children learnt that she is the first woman we know about to have written a book and they shared names of other female authors. The children learnt St Julian's body prayer and linked it to the three traffic light colours, in terms of thinking about taking time to stop and reflect and to help others. Bird Family meetings focused on us being the same, but different, through the story *Something Else*. We enjoyed a whole school hymn practice in the Read Hall on Thursday and a whole school assembly, led by Mr Bevington on Friday, which linked in with our Bird Family meetings, as it was about what we have in common and celebrating differences.

### **Topic**

We have been extending our knowledge of the lifecycle of a butterfly, learning new words such as larva, the caterpillar stage of the life cycle, and pupa, the chrysalis or cocoon stage. The children drew a diagram of the life cycle and labelled each stage. We are now waiting in eager anticipation of our caterpillars spinning new homes around themselves. We have been busy in the outdoor classroom preparing the area for our butterfly lab, the 'Butterflyarium'!

The children had a lot of fun searching for bugs in our woods, ticking off any they found on a colourful bug hunt sheet.

### **Maths**

This week we have been learning how to double and halve numbers. Max and Mia, the characters from our Lego maths boxes, challenged us to double a given number of bugs and record the total as an addition sentence:  $2 + 2 = 4$ . The children then shared an even amount of bugs between two Lego frogs. This was recorded in a slightly different way:  $4 = 2 + 2$ . We played a variety of games to help us double and halve numbers, including dice rolling and games on the interactive whiteboard.

### **Literacy**

Our focus for literacy has been writing about superbugs. We enjoyed listening to Julia Donaldson's story *Superworm*. We all designed a superbug using a computer game and

read descriptions of a variety of superpowers. We drew our superbug and had a go at writing a description of the bug and its superpowers. Children were challenged to use new sounds in their writing. We have been practising our speed sounds every day and the children have been challenged to read and write tricky and high frequency words.

### **Games**

We have had lots of fun working together in teams. This week we had a go at moving through and around obstacles in different ways and at different speeds, trying to avoid the cones as we negotiated the course. This was quite a challenge for some children and we look forward to watching the children's skills developing over the coming weeks.

### **Over the weekend**

You may like to play, or design and make, a board game that involves throwing a double on the dice. We are sure the children would enjoy sharing and playing any games with their friends in class next week.

### **Dates for your diary:**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June – 9.30am - 3.00pm:** Reception trip to Bressingham Steam Museum and Gardens

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June – 2.00pm:** Reception Sports Day on the front lawn

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June:** Royal Norfolk Show day – School closed

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July:** Moving up day for Reception

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

With our best wishes from Miss Knightly, Mrs Laing, Mrs Parker and Mrs Harries

*Melanie Harries*