



## Reception Curriculum Information

Week beginning: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Dear Parents

This week in Bird Family meetings, the focus was on considering the different ways in which we learn through looking, listening and doing. We enjoyed a celebration assembly on Thursday (due to Open Morning today) and enjoyed a visit from Reverend Patrick from Christ Church, who talked to the children about the story of Jesus. We also enjoyed watching two lovely Year 1 class assemblies, by Willow and Lime Tree Classes. We look forward to Maple Tree Class' assembly next week.

This week our topic has moved from caterpillars to flowers, as we begin to understand the role a flower plays in the ecosystem of our butterfly garden. The children have each dissected a tulip and reassembled it in the form of a picture. We labelled the basic flower parts including the parts that are under the soil. We talked about the function of each part and, to demonstrate how the stem of a plant drinks water to feed its flower, we have conducted an experiment. We hypothesised that if a flower drinks coloured water it should turn a different colour and wrote up the method. We are waiting in anticipation for the results.

### **Literacy**

In literacy, we have been listening to children read and encouraging their recognition of high frequency/tricky/red words. All children are making progress and some are beginning to demonstrate their knowledge of these words in their independent writing. If you would like to practise reading and writing words with your child there is a list of such words on the centre pages of your child's reading record. We also read the stories *The Tidy Seed* by Eric Carle and *A Seed is Sleepy* by Diana Aston and learnt about the life cycle of plants and the wondrous journey a seed can take.

### **Maths**

This week's focus has been counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and counting onwards and backwards from a given number. You may like to challenge your child by skip counting 2p, 5p and 10p coins, or by drawing a number line on the floor outside, using chalks, and asking your child to stand on a number and work out one more/one less, by jumping from one number to the next.

### **Other areas of learning**

We have been busy outside preparing the Butterfly Lab. We covered the dome with mosquito netting and moved a range of plants inside, ready for the arrival of our

butterflies. We have also been watering the plants in the outside area and making sure the garden area is kept tidy. We were so excited to watch the caterpillars change form; most have pupated and we anticipate carefully moving the chrysalides from their pots to an indoor net.

This week special books will not be sent home; we hope you enjoy looking through them over half-term.

### **Over the weekend**

- As you read stories to your children, you may like to talk about the beginning, middle and end of the story. Would the children change the ending if they were writing the story? Can they rewrite the ending to one of their favourite stories?

### **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*