

## **The World**

Our Minibeast topic will enable the children to recognise, describe and identify similarities and differences of minibeasts found in the local area. The children will also be introduced to the concept of lifecycles and habitats of different animals. We will introduce the concept of floating and sinking.

We continue to learn about celebrations around the world: Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day as well as developing observation skills of the local weather and how this affects our clothing and activity choices.

## **Communication, Language and Literacy**

We will focus on extending the children's abilities to listen, understand and speak during this term. This will be done through targeted activities to develop their vocabulary, confidence and skills to share and express their thoughts and ideas, whilst also developing the ability to listen and respond appropriately, to those of other people.

Vocabulary specific to Minibeasts, skills, literacy texts, RE and maths units will be taught, modelled and explored with the children.

## **Literacy**

Our literacy learning this term will be based around our Drawing Club Texts including "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle and "Oi Frog" by Kes Gray. We encourage children to write sounds independently after learning them in Phonics and develop the children's confidence to blend sounds and write full words or short sentences to describe minibeasts or use writing in their continuous provision activities.

## **Moving and Handling.**

PE lessons will teach a variety of gymnastic and ball skills. Children will also be practising developing their fine motor skills of cutting, pencil use and mark making during continuous provision activities in class. They will also continue to develop their independence in dressing and undressing.



# Minibeasts

## **Phonics and Reading**

We will be using the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds scheme to learn to read and write sounds, as well as blend them together in order to read words. This term we will continue our learning about diagraphs (2 letters making one sound).

## **Reading**

We will be reading a variety of texts as a class reader from the Notre Dame Reading Spine. We will look at a wide variety of fiction/ non-fiction books to research minibeasts.

## **Exploring Art and Design**

Through continuous provision and adult led activities, we will develop children's skills to use measuring jugs, folding skills, fixing methods, clay, kitchen utensils and cutting equipment.

Opportunities for Music, Dance and singing is embedded in the children's school day. They will listen and respond to different styles of music whilst also having the chance to create their own.

Maths learning is embedded within the continuous provision in the Reception areas.

## **Number**

We build on the children's understanding of number during the term by matching numbers and quantities - learning to read and write numerals up to 10. We will begin to look at the concept of "one more".

## **Shape, Space and Measure**

We will learn to recognise and name 2D and 3D shapes. During our daily timetable the children will learn the days of the week and events which happen on these days in their lives.

Cookery activities will also continue to develop the children's confidence in measuring mass, capacity, length and height.

## **Personal, Social & Emotional Development**

The children will explore our school Golden Values and Mindset focus for this term. They will also deepen their understanding of personal relationships, keeping safe and people who help us.

## **Technology**

Children will begin to learn about coding and programming of Beebots, what the internet is and how to stay safe when using the internet.

## Dates for the diary:

### January

**30<sup>th</sup> January 2026** - Reception's big bedtime story session  
2:00 PM - 2:45 PM

### February

**6<sup>th</sup> February 2026** - NSPCC Number Day PTFA Disco

**13<sup>th</sup> February 2026** - End of term for half term

### March

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026** - Next term starts

**6<sup>th</sup> March 2026** – World Book Day

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2026** – Rhubarb Theatre

**24<sup>th</sup> March 2026**– Parents' evening

**25<sup>th</sup> March 2026** - Parents' evening

**27<sup>th</sup> March 2026**- End of Term for Easter Holidays- 12:45pm Pick up

### April

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2026** - Next term starts

**Please check the parent newsletters, Classdojo or the school website for more dates and times.**

## **Things to remember:**

Please can all PE kits come in as soon as possible. PE lessons will still be on a Thursday.

Please make sure that **anything** that comes into school has your child's name clearly labelled on it.

## **Don't forget...**

All children have fruit and water for their mid-morning snack. Please ensure they have a **named** piece of fruit **separate** to their lunch box and a **named** water bottle with them in the morning. We aim to play and learn outside whenever possible. Please make sure children have a named coat with them each morning.



## Home-learning Information

**Reading - Please sign your child's white reading record** when they have completed a book. **The reading record and book should be in their book bag every day.** Please remember that it is as valuable to them to talk about the story, the characters and the words in the book as it is to simply read the text. This half term we will mostly send home wordless books.

**Guided Reading** - The children will be given a phonics home reader each week. It is very important that the children get the chance to practise reading the book at home to an adult. Please try to read each book three times each week. Sign the reading record with a short comment once your child has read the book at home and keep the book in their book bag so that it is in school every day. We will collect their reading book and reading records in on a Thursday and return to their book bags on Friday

**Phonics** - We will send home a phonics learning sheet every Friday with their new phonics reading book – please practise the graphemes and words on the sheet at home with your child.

We will visit our school Library on Fridays. One library book may be borrowed at a time and should be returned on Thursday before the next Library session. These are books for you to share and read **to** your children, to encourage their love of reading

## Contact us

Messages about illness or absence should be left with the school office. Non-urgent messages can be sent by dojo and we will respond as quickly as possible.