

Diamond Class



Learning Overview: Summer Term

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the final Half Term! We really enjoyed our growing topic last half term, culminating in the (rather slow) release of our class butterflies and all the staff are very proud of the progress your children are making.

Reading

Tortoise Words: please continue to support your child to learn these words. If they have learnt how to read all 30, please encourage your child to learn how to spell them.

Reading Diary: Please ensure that you date and sign the reading diary so that we can monitor how frequently children are reading at home and whether they have read the books and feel free to write a comment when you read with your child: daily reading support is invaluable. We ask that you keep your child's book in their book bag and bring it to school every day. Please note that children gain familiarity with new words through repeated practice, so reading books need to be read at least twice so that your child is able to read with fluency. Your child will continue to be given a book that compliments our phonics teaching alongside one that focuses on high frequency words. Those children who have completed phase 5 of our phonics programme, will not be given phonic based books but two from the alternative reading scheme. Both books will be changed once a week to allow your child to read them enough times to gain fluency.

Writing

This half term our literacy is closely linked to our topic "Under the Sea". We are looking at fiction and non-fiction texts. The year 1s will be focussing on using basic punctuation, using adjectives in their writing and extending their sentences using 'and' or 'but'. They are also learning to spell common high frequency words. We are encouraging the year Rs to use their phonic knowledge to hear and write the sounds in words in order to write phrases and sentences.

Year R/1 Phonics

Please continue to practise phonics cards with your child every day.

Numeracy

This half term we will continue to practice counting forwards and backwards, and write our numerals correctly. The Year 1s will be exploring 3D shapes and will then learn about and solve

Topic

Our topic this term is 'Under the Sea. This topic is predominantly geography and science, but other curriculum areas will be linked to this particular theme where appropriate. This half term we will be learning about the names and features of different underwater creatures and we will look at their different structures. In Geography, the children will be learning about the five oceans of the world, the different layers and the animals that live there. During our Art and DT sessions, the children will be designing and making sea creature puppets and creating a corresponding scenery. In music, the children will be learning ocean songs and using actions and instruments to enhance their performance.

P.E.:

P.E. lessons this term will be on Monday and Tuesday afternoons each week. Please send your child into school in their P.E. clothes **every** Monday and Tuesday. If your child wears earrings, please take them out for the P.E. days.

Water bottles and snacks:

Please could you continue to make sure that your child brings in a **named** bottle of **water every day**. Please be aware that other drinks, such as juice and squash, are not permitted. We would like to request that water bottles are not put in the book bags - a little leak goes a VERY long way. All children in our class continue to be able to have a free piece of fruit every day. If you wish to provide an extra snack please remember our school policy only allows fresh or dried fruit.

Miscellaneous extras:

As the weather (hopefully!) continues to improve, please provide your child with a named sun hat. Please also make sure that girls' hair is **ALWAYS** tied back for health and safety reasons. By this point in the term some name labels have worn off so please check that all of your child's clothing is still named. It is an impossible task to reunite children with their clothes if they are not named!

Thank you very much for all your continuing support. We look forward to another busy, fun-filled half term! If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to come and see us or make an appointment.

Kind regards

Miss Moore and Mrs Rose