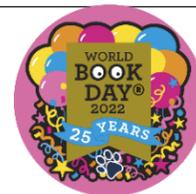


Important dates and Celebrations:

Monday	28 th February	Maha Shivaratri	Hindu
Tuesday	1 st March	Isra and Mi'raj	Muslim
Tuesday	1 st March	St. David's Day	
Tuesday	1 st March	Shrove Tuesday	Christian
Wednesday	2 nd March	Ash Wednesday	Christian
Thursday	3 rd March	World Book Day	Wear your comfy reading clothes and bring a soft friend to read with
Thursday	17 th March	Purim	Jewish
Thursday	17 th March	St Patrick's Day	
Friday	18 th March	Holi	Hindu
Friday	18 th March	Comic relief: Red Nose Day	Red noses will be available to buy from the school office soon
Sunday	20 th March	March Equinox	
Sunday	27 th March	Mothering Sunday	
Sunday	27 th March	Daylight Saving Time starts	Clock change/Daylight Saving Time
Sunday	3 rd April	Ramadan Start (Tentative Date)	Muslim
Sunday	10 th April	Palm Sunday	Christian
Thursday	14 th April	Maundy Thursday	Christian
Friday	15 th April	Good Friday	Christian
Saturday	16 th April	Holy Saturday	Christian
Saturday	16 th April	First day of Passover	Jewish
Sunday	17 th April	Easter Sunday	Christian
Monday	18 th April	Easter Monday	Bank holiday



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

RISE UP



Dear Parents and Carers,

Our first topic this half term is 'Farm Animals' and our core text is 'What the Ladybird heard'. Children will be learning about animals as well as different occupations such as a farmer. We will then move on to our 'Spring' Topic and we will be focusing on the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', where children will look closely at growth and learn about the life-cycle of a butterfly.

I will be communicating regularly through 'Marvellous Me' to keep you updated with the learning happening throughout the week, so please keep an eye out for different activities that you could do at home with your child.

April and Linda



Spring 2 2022

Communication and language

Book talk is very effective before reading a story. Looking closely at the front cover and talk about what they can see. You could ask questions like 'What might happen? What might it be about? You could ask children to find different characters on different pages.

You could also encourage children to use key vocabulary for what the ladybird heard.'handsome, dainty, farmer, young, tractor abd robber'. For *The Hungry caterpillar* story some of the key vocabulary is 'caterpillar, cocoon, chrysalis, egg, hungry. At home you could talk to children about Spring and new life. Go on a Spring walk and ask children to use their senses to observe what they can see, smell, hear.

Let's Read and Write

This term our first core book is 'What the ladybird heard'. Children will learn the story and be encouraged to make their very own maps. You could encourage children to make maps of their local area. You could go on a walk and ask children to think about what they see on the way to the local park, so that they can draw a map from home to the park. Children can make their own books, choosing their favourite characters. At home you could support your child to retell the story of what the ladybird heard and the hungry caterpillar. Ask children what happens 'first, next, then' and how does the story end? Always praise your child for any marks they make and ask them to tell you about them. Remember to make lots of comments first before asking questions to model language! Pencil control is something we will continue to work on ensuring that children are developing their fine motor skills.

Religious Education

This term our RE topic is all about Easter. We will start with talking about the Special time of Lent when we can try our best to pray more and be a good person. Children will learn about the Easter story in depth and begin to think about different parts of the story such as Palm Sunday and the Last Supper. At home you could encourage children to make good choices during Lent and show love and kindness to others. You could talk to your child about what you can do show kindness to others.

Maths

This half term children will consolidating number recognition and identifying numbers of personal significance. Children will have an understanding that numbers identify how many objects in a set. At home you could try showing your child up to 3 dots on paper and ask them to estimate how many without counting. Can they tell you how many? For shape and space we will continue to learn about properties of shapes and use language to describe 2D and 3D shapes. If a child identifies the shape, ask them to explain how they know. Children will also explore capacity and how much liquid different containers hold. This activity could be done in the bath using jugs and different sized bottles.

This half term in Nursery...

Personal Social and Emotional Development

During this special time of lent we would like children to reflect on their actions and begin to think about what they can do to show love and kindness to others. We can demonstrate friendly behaviour and identify when children are being kind and thoughtful towards others.

We will continue to talk about feelings and let children know that it is ok to feel different feelings and to concentrate on what makes them feel good and happy. Support children to feel good about themselves, recognising and enjoying children's success will help them to feel confident.

Physical Development

This half term we will be encouraging children to be more independent in self-care, such as; getting themselves dressed, putting their coat and shoes on with minimum support. This will also have a positive impact on children's confidence as they are developing skills and independence. Please allow children to do these things for themselves and give them lots of praise for trying as well as celebrating successes.

We will continue to talk to children about making healthy choices and paying attention to the effects of activity on there body. You could talk to the children about the importance of rest when they are tired as well as eating when feeling hungry. It is important for children to explore and play outdoors in order to gain confidence in the world around them. It will also support them with understanding dangers. Please provide your child with lots of opportunity to play outdoors and take some risks in their play.

We are reading...

Understanding the World

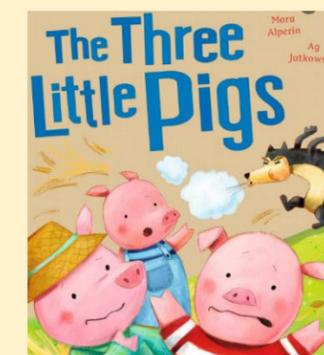
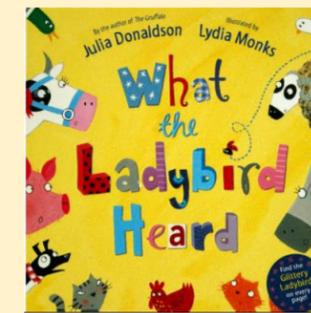
As farm animals is our topic, it is a great opportunity to learn about growth and life cycles. We will be learning about the life-cycle of a butterfly. Children will be encouraged to observe

At home you could talk to your child about growing up and changing. A height chart at home is always a good idea for children to see how they are growing. Share photographs of when they were a baby and discuss what they can do now they are 3 and 4.

Expressive Arts and Design

This term we will be exploring colour and asking children to notice what happens when we mix colour. You could experiment with paint and say things like 'I wonder what would happen if I mixed red and blue together'?

For our farm animal topic we will make animal masks and encourage children to choose different materials and textures. At home you could model language to describe textures such as; hard, rough, smooth, soft, shiny flat and bumpy. Children will experience printing with fruit and vegetables and talk about features of them. They will be encouraged to talk about their likes and dislikes. You could also do this at home during meal times.



Just a reminder...



Please ensure that your child has a change of clothes on their peg. If somebody different is collecting your child please inform the office and add them to the current list of who can collect your child.