



Minibeasts!

Curriculum News

Welcome back! We have introduced our Minibeast topic by going on a minibeast hunt and looking at non-fiction texts so the children can choose which animals they want to learn about. Some of our key texts will include *The Hungry Caterpillar*, *Aaaargh Spider* and *Super Worm*. As part of our topic we will be looking at the habitats of minibeasts and how minibeasts change from young to adults.

We will be visiting Nell Bank in Ilkley to experience a range of outdoor activities such as pond dipping, minibeast hotels and minibeast spotting. You should already have received a separate letter with more information. We will be having a Family day on the 22nd May where we will be inviting parents/carers to join us for a den building day.

Parent Volunteers

If any parents could spare any time to come in and help read or with our 'learn to ride a bike' programme, please let us know. Regular volunteers require a valid DBS check. Your help is always appreciated.

Communication

Should you have any queries or suggestions, please let us know. We are available at the beginning and end of each day or for a longer conversation we will always arrange a time to talk. If you prefer, contact us by email

rachelabbott@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk

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Thank you for your continuing support.

Important Dates:

Nell bank - Tuesday 24th April

Family Day- Tuesday 22nd May

RA- Afternoon 1:30-3:20

RKL- Morning 9:00 - 11:00

Class Photographs - Thursday 24th May

We will be sending out further information about these events. Please look out for emails

Independent children

After a big focus last term, we are really pleased with how independent the children are at dinnertime. They are all pouring their own water and using their knife and fork to cut up their dinner, even when it's pizza! Please support us by encouraging your child to do this at home.

As part of the Foundation Stage assessment at the end of the year we need to know whether the children can dress and undress themselves independently, including fastenings, buttons and zips. You as parents and carers will know this better than us, so we will send out a form this term for you to fill in to let us know whether your child can do this.

Fine Motor control

Motor control is an important part of children's development. Fine motor control impacts many things, including the ability to write. We do many activities in Reception to help development and progress in this area, including using play dough. Using dough to make things and to twist, pinch, stretch etc really helps a child's manual dexterity as well as being lots of fun. We thought we would share our best recipe with you in case you would like to try and make some at home!

Play Dough Recipe

Ingredients

2 cups of plain flour



2 cups of water



2 tablespoons of oil



2 teaspoons of cream of tarter



1 cup of salt



Method

Put all the ingredients into a bowl.

Mix together.

Microwave for 1 minute 30 seconds.

Take out and stir.

Microwave again for 1 minute, stir. Continue to microwave for 30 seconds at a time until you have a play dough consistency.



