



Minibeasts!

Welcome back! We will introduce 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*, *Anansi and the turtle go to dinner* and a range of non-fiction texts. As part of our topic we will be looking at the habitats of minibeasts and how they change from young to adults.

Key Events

Week 1: Looking at minibeast habitats around school

Week 2: Bikeability- We will be learning/practising balance/bike riding skills

Week 3: The arrival of our new class pets – ladybirds and caterpillars!

Week 4: Learning a butterfly dance and music sessions

Week 5: Eid party

Week 6: Bug Fun Run – We will be doing a fun run in school grounds dressed as bugs, to raise money for a bug charity.

Reading Books

We are really pleased with how the children are doing with their reading. They are all trying hard to recognise the sounds and blend them together. We strongly advise that you spend 5-10 minutes a day reading or practising tricky words with your child. This really does make a difference to your child's progress in reading. Please remember to also just read for fun; this will help with vocabulary, expression and helps to regulate children's emotions. Remember to write down each time they read as if they do it 5 times they receive a star sticker.

Tricky Words

We are working through the Tricky Words at school and can really see the progress the children are making so please keep practising these at home. There are 14 sets in total and once these have been learnt the children gain a certificate. In school we are focusing on up to Set 6 and learning to write these.

Sun Protection

This term we may see the sunshine. To help us to protect your child against the sun could you please apply 'once a day' sunscreen or send in sunscreen to school that your child can reapply. Please can you make sure this is clearly labelled with your child's name. Please send your child with a sun hat and wraparound sunglasses if appropriate.

PE

The children will be taking part in a PE session every Thursday. We ask that they come dressed in their PE kit on a Thursday. Please be aware they stay in the kit all day, so we advise children to wear trainers as normal Reception activities will still take place. The PE kit for school is: A blue t-shirt, black/blue or white shorts or blue/black track suit trousers and a PE sweatshirt (if the weather is cool).

Junk Modelling

Please save old boxes e.g., toothpaste, kitchen rolls, yogurt pots, bottle tops or lids, etc and give them to your child's class teacher for small and large junk modelling.

Class Trays

Please remember to place any important information into the class trays in the morning. This should include letters to the teachers, responses to letters, reading books on your child's day and any Tricky Words your child may need changing. If you are doing home learning, please email us with any queries (emails below).

Collection



We are collecting items to enhance our Home Corner. If you have any of the following items (or other things you think may be useful) please bring them to school and hand them to the class teacher. Items such as: pots, pans, tea pots (non-breakable), utensils (whisks, wooden spoons, metal spoons), sieves, colanders buttons and keys.

Toys

We have noticed a sudden rise in children bringing toys and teddies into school. Please could we ask for these to stay at home, where they are safe. We know some children need them for comfort and those arrangements we have already made will still stand. Thank you for your understanding.

Important dates

3rd May – May day, school closed

20th May - class photographs

Parent consultations for Reception children will take place after half term, dates to follow.

21st May – school closes for half term

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:

beckygarnett@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk

nancygrady@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk

helenbinns@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk

Thank you for your continuing support.