

The Brainy Bugs

Year 1

Summer Newsletter/Terms 5 & 6

Miss Alcock
Mrs Hageman and Mrs Kelly

Welcome back to you all We hope that you had a lovely Easter break. We have plenty to look forward to over the next two terms and lots of exciting activities already planned. Please come to us with any questions you may have, we will always listen although you may need to make an appointment if it requires more than a few minutes. It is important that we work together as a team for the benefit of all the children.



Creative Curriculum



Going to the Woods & Olympics

During the summer terms we will be using "If you go down to the woods today" and The Olympics as the focus for much of our learning. On Tuesday 24th April we will be having Lynn Daley in from the Harcourt Arboretum to take the class on an observational nature walk around the school grounds and to talk about the different trees and seeds. We will also be investigating different trees and animals that are found in woods and we are hopefully going to walk to Foxburrow Wood with Year 2. We will be doing lots of gardening and growing vegetables and finding out what seeds need to survive. The children have already begun to plant sunflower seeds and are keeping their own diaries of their growth. Our Olympics theme will obviously be very exciting and we will be finding out about the Ancient Greek Olympics and how they compare with today's. We will also be finding out about the main Olympic venues in

London and around the UK and which sports will be taking place and where. We will be mapping out the torch route and finding out lots of information on the Internet. In our Science work we will think about the human body and how it works and also be doing some experiments on pushes and pulls, gravity and properties of materials. In ICT we will be continuing to use programmes to create pictures and using the keyboard to enter and change text and using equipment such as Bee Bots and roamers. We will ask the children for their ideas for our role play corner and continue to adapt and change it as our work progresses. There will be lots of Creative work taking place such as making Olympic posters, and logo's and some Design Technology making medals and Olympic torches.



PE

PE will continue to be on Thursday mornings and Tuesday afternoons and we would remind you that all children require a full PE kit on both days. A pair of shorts, t-shirt and plimsolls is required and should be clearly named in an appropriate bag.



Reading

Reading is an essential and key part of all learning. We aim to have 1 to 1 reading and teaching sessions with the children at least twice a week. We will also be hearing them and teaching them in a group reading situation. Please ensure that you send your child with their



book bag each day. We would appreciate your support by ensuring that your child practises their reading daily for a maximum of ten minutes. Please keep sessions short and fun! We know how busy everyone is, but those ten minutes are so important.

Homework

Talk homework for the Big Write will continue to be sent home on Wednesday, so that it gives you and your child two nights to talk through. **It is very important that this is always done** with your child as it helps them greatly with their writing. Written homework will as usual be set on a Friday and is expected back by the following Wednesday in order to get marked, discussed with your child and for new work to be put in books. **Please work with your child on the activities set.**



Phonics / Writing

We will continue to have daily phonics sessions. We will be reinforcing all the new sounds that the children have learnt this year. It is most important that we encourage them to attempt to spell words by sounding them out. Don't be too quick to write words for them. Ask children to 'have a go' first, on scrap paper is good as it doesn't spoil any work for them. Always praise sounds that are correct... even if it is just the first one! Please remember that the sounds should be 'pure'...i.e. they should not have an 'uh' sound at the end. If you need any guidance please ask!

In Terms 5/6 we shall be continuing our handwriting scheme with the children called **Penpals**. Before each session the children will be doing some warming up activities to develop their fine and motor skills. Each week the children will be working on a variety of patterns and different letter formations. Please can you also encourage your child to use the correct pencil grip when they write at home.



Maths

This term we shall focus on extending our work on adding and subtraction, oral word problems, place value and ordering numbers to 100. Work in Term 6 will include more shape work, data handling (making graphs and tables), working with money and basic multiplication. It would be really useful for children to continue to practise their number bonds or "number friends" that make 10 so that these are known by heart so 0+10, 1+9, 2+8, 3+7, 4+6, 5+5, 6+4, 7+3, 8+2, 9+1 and 10+0 whenever possible.



Show and Tell

As already mentioned with the new dates and lists sent home we would like the children to talk about their favourite place in Term 5. This could be somewhere they have been on holiday, have been on a day trip or somewhere they visit regularly. Why do they like the place so much and what do they do there? Photographs, guides or drawings which the rest of the class could see would be lovely to see also.



PSHCE

The theme in Term 5 is Relationships and the children will be involved in a range of activities such as circle times when they will be thinking about people who are important to them and how to deal with feelings such as jealousy and pride. In Term 6 the theme will be Changes and we will be thinking about moving up to new classes and thinking about what will be the same and what might be different.



Finally many thanks for all your continued support with all the activities which take place in the classroom. Everything is very much appreciated.