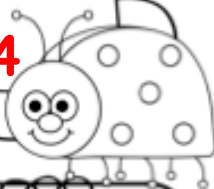




Ladybirds Home learning newsletter

No. 1

11th Sept 2024



Welcome to the weekly Ladybirds home learning newsletter.

The children are settling in well and are learning the rules and routines of school. Tapestry will be up and running within the next week. The children are making new friends and playing nicely together.

Our topic is **Amazing Me!** The children will be creating a display of self portraits.

Please email Mrs. White a photo of your child's close family for our class display to make the Ladybirds feel at home. (see email address below)

REWARDS

We reward all our Ladybirds when they follow the school rules. Rewards include stickers for their individual sticker charts, raffle tickets, certificates and whole class gems in the jar. When children complete their sticker chart they choose a gift from the 'grab box'. Small donations of quality small toys or bubbles are always welcome for this.

Thank you for helping your child have a smooth transition into school.

NUMBERS

Each week we will have a number/maths focus. We will follow the 'White Rose' maths scheme to ensure children have a good foundation knowledge of numbers. Numberblocks programmes are really good for mathematical knowledge. They may like to practise studying the numbers, saying the number names, counting the amounts and practising writing the numerals.

PHONICS

Each week we will be learning sounds/letters using the 'Little Wandle' scheme for phonics.

All children take part in national phonics screening (at the end of Year 1) and need to have completed all 5 phases of phonics in order to pass. Therefore, we would be very grateful if you could regularly practise graphemes (letter names) and phonemes (sounds) at home.

From next week, in their bag will be a 'Caterpillar' sounds book. Please practise the sounds and tricky words in this, with your child at home, and when they can recognise them in any order, we will test them once a week, and glue in a new set of sounds in once learnt.

Extra parent support guidance will be sent using 'Little Wandle' materials, plus a reading and phonics workshop **Wed 25th Sept 2:45pm** Alphablocks TV programmes are a great place to start. Plus, 'Steve says - Cued articulation' videos on YouTube.

READING

We wish to foster a love of reading instilled within our pupils. On a Monday, your child was given a reading book to bring home - please read with your child 4 times a week and sign their reading record by writing the name of the book and a short comment. Children start with picture books with no words to help their imaginative story telling. Children will also be bringing home 'caterpillar words and sounds' to learn (see above). Guidance for both these activities are inside these books, and will be discussed at the 'Reading and phonics' session' (date **Wed 25th Sept 2:45pm**). At school the children will take part in daily guided reading activities including individual reading, learning a weekly text linked to our topic, and practising their caterpillar words.

A great website is teachyourmonstertoread.com

Dates

- **25.9.24 Reading and phonics workshop 2:45pm**
- **Notes provided for those who are unable to attend.**
- **20.9.24 Wear 'Jeans for genes' day, Denim bottoms, uniform top, any footwear. £1 donation please to charity.**
- **27.9.24 Macmillan coffee morning for parents to meet in the hall, eat cake and have coffee (all for a good cause).**

REMINDERS:

- Only fruit snacks in bags please, if your child wants something different to the school fruit.
 - Children wear their p.e. kit on a Tuesday (not uniform)
 - Please ensure all items are name labelled
 - If your child has a lunch box, please name it on the outside.
 - A **small** personalised keyring, on the school bag, is a good idea to help children identify their bag easily.
- A family photo emailed to Mrs White.

mrswhite@stepgates.surrey.sch.uk