**ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH of ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL**

Friday 26th April 2019

**Reception Newsletter 5**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Easter holidays! I hope you have all had a fantastic break and are feeling ready for the new term ahead. After a break myself, I am eager to get back into the classroom and to hear all about what your children have been up to.

This half term we will be exploring the exciting topic of ‘Bugs in the Garden’. We will be reading several stories related to bugs and our first story is ‘Arghhhh Spider!’ by Lydia Monks. At home you could:

* Read stories related to insects/ gardens.
* Talk about any bugs that you might find in your house or garden.
* Go on a bug hunt.

**Communication, Language and Literacy Focus**

Literacy this half term will continue to have a focus on segmenting for writing and blending for reading. Children will read a variety of insect related stories, which will act as a stimulus for sequencing, writing labels, captions, sentences and lists. In Phonics, the children will be beginning Phase 4 phonics as a part of the Letters and Sounds phonic programme. Parents could support by using the online games on Phonics Play for phase 3 and phase 4. This will increase the children’s confidence when recognising letters and when blending and segmenting to read and write.

Here are the sounds that we have learned in Phase 3:

Phase 3

Set 6: j, v, w, x

Set 7: y, z, zz, qu

Graphemes: ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er.

In Phase 4, no new graphemes are introduced. The main aim of this phase is to consolidate the children's knowledge and to help them learn to read and spell words which have adjacent consonants, such as t-r-a-p, s-t-r-i-ng and m-i-l-k.

**Reading and words**

In regards to reading books and reading records, please can I ask that these are kept in your child’s book bag and are returned to school every day. Your child will receive two or three books to read at home.

Homework and reading challenges will continue to be sent home on a **Thursday**. The children’s Library Books will continue to be changed on a **Thursday**, so will need to be returned to school each Thursday to ensure that your child receives a new book to take home please.

**Mathematics**

In Mathematics, the children will continue to engage in practical activities which include working with teen numbers, putting then in the correct order and beginning able to say what is one more or one less than a given number. The children will also be learning how to add and subtract using practical activities. We will be learning about how to double, halve and share. We will also focus on 3D shapes and the use of language which describes size, weight, capacity, shape, position and distance.

**PE**

PE will continue to be on a **Friday** this half term. PE kits should be left in school (on cloakroom pegs) and should contain a pair of well-fitting plimsoles or Velcro sandshoes for outdoor lessons. It would be very helpful if any children with long hair could have their hair tied up on these days. Ear piercings should be removed for school please.

**Visits**

This term we will be have been visited by ‘Bug ‘n’ Stuff’, who will have introduced the class to various bugs.

If you have any questions or queries please pop in to see me after all of the children have been dismissed at the end of the school day.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Baharie

**Dates for your diary:**

**23/4/19-** ESH Group STEM activities for Rec & Y1 children

**24/4/19**- Bugs ‘n’ stuff visit for Nursery and Reception

**26/4/19**- PTFA Easter Cake Stall

**21/5/19**- Happy Shoes Day

 - World Day for Cultural Diversity

**24/5/19**- School closes for half term.

**Wish list:**

I would really appreciate it if you could send in any clean yoghurt pots, cardboard tubes or boxes to help with some of the crafts that we may be doing.

**Reminders**

* Please could all of your child’s uniform be labelled
* Could you ensure warm outdoor clothing is provided as some activities are carried out outdoors.

Thank You!

**My contact details:**

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