



## Spring 3 Newsletter March 2018

### Afternoon Tea with the SLT

The Strategic Leadership Team, comprising of myself, Mrs Louise Sim and Mrs Carolyn Lee, would like to invite parents and carers to an afternoon tea with ourselves to share delicious cakes from the kitchen team whilst reviewing different aspects of the school. This is your opportunity to share what you think has gone well and what we could do even better relating to a range of areas from behaviour management to feedback and marking. Your input into the development of the school is important to us so please come along and join us. This will be an informal meeting with parents and staff milling around to look at different information displays whilst eating and drinking! We will ask you to place your thoughts and ideas onto post-it notes to add to these displays. The SLT will be around to discuss anything specific with you as well.

Please look out for a letter to invite you to book your place so we can make enough cakes for everyone!

### SNOW!

Thank you for your patience and understanding during the recent period of wintery weather.

Please be assured that the Health and Safety of our children and staff are at the forefront of all of our decisions.

We sincerely hope you have all remained safe and warm whilst enjoying the snow with the children if you can!



### Communication with School

Please note our email address is

[office@bedgroveinfant.co.uk](mailto:office@bedgroveinfant.co.uk)

Many parents were still using the old address to reply to the Open Session letter and their replies got delayed by this.

### PTA Contribution for Trips

We are delighted to confirm that the PTA are kindly donating £500 towards the cost of the Educational Visits the year groups are organising for the Summer Term. This helps us to keep the cost to parents as low as we can as this donation may cover the cost of travel or the entry fees to our destinations.

Please come along and support the PTA at our events to help raise more money for the benefit of the school.

### Parent Evening Plans

Letters will be coming home soon for you to book your slot for a meeting with your child's class teacher. Please note that we are unable to provide a crèche for these meetings for Health and Safety and Safeguarding reasons.

We have been advised that we would not be legally compliant in regards to adult to child ratios needed. As these differ for each age group of child who is present it is not feasible to provide the number of staff needed to meet these requirements.

Please liaise with friends and family to look after your children for these meetings. Sunflower Group is available for Infant School children and bookable through ParentMail as usual. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause however, it is an unavoidable situation.

### Dates for your Diary

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March

#### Mother's Day Open Sessions

Female relatives invited in for Arty Sessions in classes. **10.15 – 11.45** or **1.30 – 3.00**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

**Afternoon Tea with the SLT 2.00pm – 3.00pm**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Parent Evening 3.10pm – 7.00pm

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

Parent Evening 3.10pm – 6.00pm

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Easter Bonnet Parade 2.00pm

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

School closes for Easter holiday at 1.30pm

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

School reopens for Summer Term

## Foundation 1 News

This month, we will be using water colours to paint still life pictures of tulips, visiting the Spinney to explore and discuss seasonal changes and re-telling and adapting the story 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see?' by Eric Carle. We also have some new exciting Funky Fingers activities for the children to take part in and will also be using the drums to tap out simple repeated rhythms.

We would like to thank all the families who have completed 'Hints from home' for contributing towards our planning. Finally, we will be encouraging and supporting children to become more independent by putting on their own coats, mittens, hats, solving their own problems and seeing to their own needs. We ask that families also support this at home to contribute towards a smooth transition to F2 next academic year.

## Year 1 News

Our topic for next half-term is "Animal Magic". We will be encouraging the children to share any animal facts and knowledge that they have. If your child has a favourite animal and would like to make a fact file or poster we would be delighted to fit in time for them to share this with their class. In our Epic writing we will be using popular stories to learn about reptiles, amphibians, fish, mammals and birds. We are continuing to work on correct letter formation and are encouraging those children who are able to form their letters correctly on a consistent basis to write on the line and to think about the size of the writing.

In Maths, we have been recapping on all four number operations (+ - x ÷) to improve fluency and exploring the ways in which pictorial representations can be used to represent these and help the children to work out the answers to a question. To become fluent in Maths it is essential to have a good knowledge of number facts. Parents can support their child's learning by ensuring that children can not only recall their 2, 5, 10 times tables and number bonds by rote but can also give answers randomly. If you feel that your child is confident with their times tables or number bonds, try playing games like number bonds tennis where you throw a ball to them saying a number e.g. 3 and ask them to return the ball saying its number partner to 10 e.g. 7. The top marks website has some excellent games <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

We have also been learning to tell the time to the hour and half past the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times. When learning to tell the time we start by introducing an analogue clock. Analogue clocks lend themselves to a better understanding of time because of the constantly moving hands. The visual impact of the clock face also makes comprehension easier i.e. seeing the sections of the clock and matching this to counting in 5 minute intervals. Please look at the website link below to pick up some hints and tips to help you support your child.

<http://www.busythings.co.uk/blog/teaching-children-how-to-tell-the-time-hints-and-tips/>

## Foundation 2 News

Please can we ask that you inform your child's class teacher of anything at home that may impact on your child e.g. moving house, pregnancy, illness in the family. Children's behaviour can be impacted by things they hear and see even if they are not totally aware of what is happening. Knowing that something has happened at home allows us to deal with behavioural and emotional changes in the children appropriately and sensitively. Obviously any information shared will be treated in confidence.

May we remind you that you need to provide a note to cover any absence for illness even if you have called in. This can be a note in the home school diary or a separate letter.

So far this term the children have enjoyed celebrating the Chinese New year, including parading round the school with their instruments and ordering the story. We have been investigating addition and subtraction using concrete resources and will continue to do so alongside 1 more/1 less for numbers to 20. We will be looking at measuring time and distance in simple ways and developing the children's knowledge of 3d shapes. In literacy we have been following instructions to make pirate hats and will move on to asking children to provide instructions for a friend. We continue to widen their repertoire of stories, moving on to 'Bear Hunt' for our next writing activity.

## Year 2 News

Welcome back everybody after a surprisingly long weekend! Last week we continued our new Topic, studying the world's wonderful rainforests. The children already seem fully engaged with this subject and many of them have already brought in their own research and projects to share with their classes, well done! We look forward to this Friday when lots of Mums and Grans are coming in to help us with our rainforest art!

We would also like to thank you for all the reading you've been doing. When we assess reading in school we are looking at the child's ability to decode the text and read fluently AND their ability to comprehend the story or text. To test this, we ask lots of questions ranging from simple retrieval questions- 'Who is the main character?' or 'Where is this story set?' to more complex questions that ask the child to infer or read between the lines, examples of this type of question can be "Why do you think the main character does this?" "How do you think the story will end? Why do you think this?" When you read with your children get them thinking about what they're reading with this type of question. Not only does it test their comprehension but it often makes books more enjoyable too!

Thank you as always for your support.