



Curriculum Information

Plum Class Spring 2 2019

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Springing into Spring!

Welcome back to a new half term. We're at our midway point in the year and I couldn't be happier with the progress that the children are making! Thank you to everyone who is reading with their children at home and ensuring that reading books are brought back into school each week. Thank you also for the super home learning contributions. The children love to share things that they have written or drawn from their weekends at home.

Read Write Inc

Read Write Inc will continue on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings throughout the half term.

Some children have begun to learn their set 2 sounds this week. These are the sounds that are made when a particular two letters are put together. An example of one of these sounds is the **ay** sound that we find in words such as **play** and **stay**. Children who are learning these sounds will bring them home in their sound file each Friday. If your child has not begun to learn these sounds yet, it won't be long until we get started on them!

Within our RWI sessions, we continue to read and write on a daily basis. The children are now becoming a lot more confident and independent at blending sounds to read and write words. All children are beginning to build a bank of tricky red words (those that can't be sounded out) that they can read by sight. As we write, we continue to focus heavily upon correct formation and we ask for your support with this if your child is writing at home.

Mathematics

In our mathematical work, we will continue to practise and extend our addition and subtraction skills. As part of our daily maths sessions we will now be applying these skills to create and solve simple number problems. We will continue to count in steps of 1 and 2 with numbers up to and beyond 20. We are learning to count backwards from 20 and it would be great if you could practise this regularly at home. We will be doubling and halving this half term with numbers, quantities and shapes. We now know the names of 2D shapes up to 8 sided octagons and our 3D shape recognition includes cubes, cuboids, spheres, cylinders and cones. I encourage you to spot and name shapes in the environment as you are out and about. We are also becoming more confident at distinguishing between 2D and 3D shapes. We will also carry out some weight work this half term by measuring and comparing.

Topic Led Communication, Reading and Writing

We are beginning the half term by finding out about our families and the community that we live in. We will read non-fiction texts about the job roles that we might see within our town (police, doctors, nurses etc.) and we will read stories related to these job roles too. Children will enjoy writing tasks related to role-play activity. As we get closer to Easter, we'll explore the season of spring and again, this will include both fiction texts relating to spring wildlife and information texts.

Find out about our week each Friday by reading our blog on our class webpage!

The World

We are exploring the idea of 'family' and learning that there are similarities and differences in all of our Plum Class families. We are trying to sow the seed that differences and similarities can both be positive! We will find out about ourselves as babies and explore all of the amazing things that we have learnt to do in 5 years.

We'll be out and about in our school grounds regularly over the course of the half term looking for signs of spring and tending to our Plum Class garden. If the weather continues to be kind, we'll get out regularly for lots of play too.

Creative and Imaginative Work

There will be lots of opportunity for role play as we explore families, traditions and some of the jobs that people do.

Spring will inspire lots of creative work as we mix colours and paint buds, blossom and new leaves. We'll also use the life cycle of butterflies and frogs as a basis for collage, painting, music and movement.

There will be daily opportunities for the children to use the wealth of creative resources in the classroom to explore our class led topic work as well as their own interests and investigations.

Physical Stuff

We'll continue our ball skill work this half term. We're getting much more precise as we throw and catch and now we're learning to dribble and kick with control and precision too. We'll use our new school play equipment to challenge ourselves as we climb, balance and explore. Each week, there'll be the opportunity for playground racing and chasing games to get our hearts pumping and our legs moving!

As always, wellies will be a must as we try to get out and about on our school field to use the outdoor environment as an important space to learn and develop skills.

Things to remember everyday

- Water bottle
- Book bag
- Coat (even if the weather is mild)
- Tie long hair back so it doesn't get in the way of hard work
- No nail varnish in school

We would be extremely grateful for donations of:

- Yoghurt pots
- Junk modelling boxes
- Bottle tops, corks and anything shiny!

Important Days

Monday or Tuesday: Home learning books back to school

Thursday: Reading

Friday: PE and reading

I look forward to discussing progress with you next week at consultation meetings. Please pop and see me if you haven't made an appointment and we can sort a suitable date and time.

With kind regards,
Mrs Anne-Marie Grimes

