



Dear Parents and Children,

We hope that you all had an enjoyable and restful half term holiday.

Last half term was a great start to the new year and the children thoroughly enjoyed our Space/Superhero topic.



We also enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year



As well as Valentine's Day



Red Class loved their Multi-skills event at the Walker Activity Dome last term.

Blue Class will get their chance to enjoy the next event on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March**.

We have lots more learning to look forward to this half term and many exciting opportunities for the children in store.

Our new topic '**Amazing Animals**' is sure to inspire the children. You will find more detailed information about the areas of learning we will cover in the accompanying curriculum letter.

We look forward to meeting visiting pets, including Jessie the Guinea Pig and Maggie our School dog. We are also excited about our trip to **Hall Hill Farm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**.



Another date for your diary this term is **Parents' Evening**, on the **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April**. We look forward to sharing with you the progress your child is making.

Our book change days continue to be a **Tuesday** and a **Friday**. Please make sure your child has their Reading book and record, plus their Word Wall and Sounds book each day.

The children have enjoyed using the library for the first time last half term. Remember to bring your Library book on a **Friday** if you would like to change it. Thank you to the Mums who come in and help to run the library. We really appreciate your support. If anyone has a spare hour or so during the week to come in and listen to individual children read, please come and speak to one of us.

#### Phonics:

The children continue to make super progress with their phonics and we are beginning to see lots of evidence of them applying their knowledge in their writing.

You may remember from the reading meeting that a digraph is two letters that make one sound e.g. **sh**. These are the sounds that the children are finding tricky. As we are introducing more sounds, the children are finding it more difficult to remember them. There are particular sounds which look similar and can cause confusion, e.g. **or**, **ar** and **ur**. Again you can support your child by practising the sounds in their sound book, as well as trying to use them correctly in their writing. The children often know the letters which make a sound but will sometimes write them in the wrong order. E.g. **ht** instead of **th**

We are usually available before and after school to speak to parents so please do not hesitate to pop in and see us if you have any queries or concerns. Alternatively, you could write a note or leave a message with the school office and we will get back to you ASAP. Thank you again for your continued support, we are enjoying every moment with your fabulous children and we can't believe that we are already more than half way through the year!

Many Thanks

The Early Years Team



