

Padstow School & Nursery

Head of School: Mrs K Whitford

Tuesday 26th April 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you have had a restful and enjoyable Easter holidays and that you are all refreshed and ready for what the Summer term brings.

This half term our topic is called 'Wriggle and Crawl!'.

Grab your coat -we're going out and about on a minibeast hunt. Sweep your nets in ponds and lift up logs to see who's home. Then set up a minibeast laboratory and observe their every move. Add notes and labels and ask research questions, just like a real entomologist. Learn about bees and worms and butterflies too. Can you make a food chain to show who eats who? Carry out investigations to find out more, like how far a snail travels in a day and how a spider catches its prey. Then animate to show how your favourite bug transforms from one form to another, perhaps a caterpillar to a butterfly or a maggot to a fly. On your belly, legs at the ready, it's time to wriggle and crawl.

Below, there is some information about the school year and some ideas about helping your child at home.

Phonics

Puffin class will start their new/continued Read Write inc groups this week. We will be recapping tricky sounds and working on their comprehension skills.

In June this year, Y1 have their phonics screening check so it would really benefit the children if you could recap the sounds they have learnt. They can be found in their sound books and in the front of their RWI books.

Please continue to recap all their sounds as regularly as you can. It really is the foundation to becoming fluent readers and writers.

Reading

Reading leaders will give each child a Read Write Inc book as well as a book bag book to read at home. These will be changed as we move through the scheme. The children practise their reading with books that match the phonics and the 'tricky words' they know. They start thinking that they can read and this does wonders for their confidence. The children also practise reading (and spelling) what we call 'tricky words', such as 'once,' 'have,' 'said' and 'where'.

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Spellings for Year 1

Children will have weekly spellings to practise and learn. Each child will have a spelling book in which these weekly spellings can be practised. If your spelling book is full please let me know and I will provide another one. There are lots of different ways to learn their spellings. It is important that they also understand the meaning of the words they are learning. Can they put them into context? Can they write a sentence including one or two? Please find this half terms spelling list attached.

PE will be taught on a Friday. Please ensure your child brings their kit to school at the beginning of the week. This can be left in school for the week. We ask that your child brings their P.E. kit into school and leaves it in school-we will send it home when it needs to be washed. Please encourage your children to dress independently at home by practising putting on their own t-shirts, shorts and socks etc by themselves. This will support them to be able to dress themselves independently in their P.E. kits when at school.

<u>Outdoor Learning</u>

Outdoor learning will be on a Friday. We plan to be outside whatever the weather!

- Each child to keep a pair of wellies in a named bag in school.
- Children to wear suitable clothes for outdoor learning (e.g. clothes you will not mind coming home muddy!). Their school jumper should still be worn.

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Other Information:

We encourage your child to have water bottles in school, so they have access to water throughout the day. Snacks from home need to be labelled and put in the snack tray for break time. Please can you help us with our Healthy School status and provide fruit, veg or other healthy snacks. Snack ideas can be found on https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts/healthier-snacks-for-kids. Could they, also, only bring to school a lunch box (if not having school lunches), coat, hat, book bag and water bottle (water only) - all labelled.

I will only be available for a brief exchange of information at the class door so if you feel you need a longer conversation, please make an appointment for me to call you by telephoning or emailing the office and I will endeavour to get back to you the same day. I look forward to working with you and your children over the next few months.

Yours sincerely

Miss Barnard

Puffin Class Teacher

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