



Ducks Spring Term Newsletter



This term our topic book focus is 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.

Literacy: During this term we will continue to work towards the children's individual targets relating to their communication, writing and phonics/reading. We are also introducing 'signing in' during our morning routine and dough disco to support developing their fine motor skills and to practise their tracing/ writing on a daily/weekly basis.

Numeracy: We will continue working on developing their understanding of number and work on their individual targets throughout the term. We will also be introducing positional language through lots of fun games and activities. ('in, on and under'.)

Knowledge and Understanding of the World: Linking to our topic book, the children will be exploring the life cycle of a caterpillar as well as exploring different types of fruit. We are also hoping to have our own caterpillar in class so the children can observe the transformation into a butterfly.

PSHE: We will be continue to work on developing their independence through encouraging them to take off and put on their own shoes, coats and socks as well as putting their bags in their boxes when arriving to class. During PSHE lessons, we will be exploring different types of emotions through stories, songs, games and fun activities.

Creative Arts: Throughout the term, the children will be involved in lots of cooking sessions, learning how to use a knife to cut fruit and use their senses to explore e.g. tasting, smelling and touching. They will also be exploring and using different materials to create art linking to our topic.

Physical Activity: The children will have lots of opportunities to learn new movements and develop gross motor skills through a range of activities in the week such as our P.E. sessions, soft play, dance etc.

If you would like to know more about what the children are learning in each area of the curriculum, please check out our medium term plan on the school website. If you cannot find this or have questions regarding what your child is focusing on, please speak to a member of ducks team.

Communication

We use home school diaries to communicate about your child's day and you can use the book to communicate back to the class team. Feel free to write anything that you feel might impact their day at school or anything else that is important for us to know E.g./Sleep, eating etc.

You can also email me at s.hazlehurst@ashgate.manchester.sch.uk

You can also speak to us by calling the school on 0161 359 5322. If we are not available, you can leave a message or ask us to call you back.

Key Information/ NEW for the Spring Term:

- We are hoping to have swimming every Tuesday throughout the Spring Term. However, it is currently closed for January- we will inform you when we are starting the swimming sessions.
- On Wednesday we now have P.E. sessions with ROAR Potential. During these sessions the children will work on developing different gross motor skill activities such as throwing, balance and enjoy joining in during parachute games.
- **What is signing in?** Each morning, we will be asking the children to either trace a letter of their name, their full name or write their name to work on developing their fine motor skills and work on their individual writing targets.
- **What is dough disco?** Dough disco is a fun activity which supports the children to develop and strengthen their hand muscles to help them complete fine motor skill activities. Each child has playdough and whilst music is played in the background, the children will be encouraged to do different movements using the playdough, for example, pinch the playdough, roll into a ball, poke using different fingers, squeeze etc. Once we have warmed our hands up, the children will then be asked to complete a fine motor skill activity such as tracing, writing, threading etc.
- Check out our class page on the website to see pictures of what we have been up too. We will try our best to keep it up to date with new pictures throughout the term.

Thank you for your continuous support, it has been amazing to watch how far each and every child has come since September and look forward to continuing working with them this term.

Ducks Team.

Shannon, Emma, Molly and Skye