



## Reception Newsletter - Week beginning: 21.04.2025

We are very excited about our Term 5 topic "What is happening in our garden?"

- Minibeasts -

Our story of the week - "I Love Bugs!"



**Personal, Social and Emotional Development** - We are enjoying spending time playing and learning with our friends again, both inside and out! We always remember our School Rules and our Learning Muscles, as they both make our school a wonderful place to be! We also know it is so important to work together as a team, using our kind words and hands at all times. The new theme in Jigsaw is 'Relationships'. This week we listened to the chime and practised breathing in through our noses and out through our mouths to help us to feel relaxed. We talked about the people in our families and realised that not all families are the same. Some people in our families live in the same house and some live in their own houses. We also shared with our friends which jobs around the house our grown-ups did and which jobs we can help with. Lots of us enjoy hoovering!

**Communication and Language** - Before drawing and writing about our Easter holiday, we talked about what we had done and what we especially enjoyed. We have had lovely discussions about what we know about minibeasts, what we would like to find out and have already started learning some new words, such as 'antennae'! We looked at photos of minibeasts and learnt the names of lots of different minibeasts.

**Physical Development** - We love being active at outside time. We enjoy using our own playground and spending time in the morning on the big playground. We like using bats, balls and hoops on the big playground. In our reception garden we enjoy building obstacle courses and using our imagination when driving cars or playing with different small world and construction toys. We are continuing to develop our fine motor skills by exploring play dough, using tweezers and threading pasta. We have also used scissors, lots of different mark making equipment and various building and construction toys. This all helps to strengthen our hands ready for all the 'jobs' we are doing. In PE this week we have been making shapes and balances as we begin our gymnastics unit. We have practised making a 'straight', 'pike', 'straddle', 'star' and 'tuck'. Can you practise these shapes again at home, exploring different ways to travel between each one?



**Literacy** – We enjoyed hearing about the Easter holidays and all of us have done some lovely holiday drawing and writing. We are becoming more confident at saying each word, listening for sounds and pinching them onto our fingers. We have also been doing lots and lots of independent writing. We love to write on whiteboards, clipboards and we even use chalk and water to paint and write outside. The non-fiction books about minibeasts are a great hit. We have found them very interesting to read and we have also read lots of story books about minibeasts. We are doing lots of reading in phonics and continue to enjoy reading our ditties or sound blending books. Keep up with reading every night at home and remember to indicate in reading diaries that reading has been done.

**Mathematics** - We have continued to build our knowledge of number through a variety of activities in our continuous provision. We continue to practice counting in 2's and 10's and back from 20. We have been practising counting on or back from different numbers. This week we have been exploring numbers beyond 10, and up to 20. We have made different teen numbers using Numicon, ten frames and unifix cubes. We have also revisited doubling and sharing.

**Understanding the World** – We have been so excited to explore our outdoor areas, using our magnifying glasses to hunt for minibeasts. We have found beetles, spiders, flies, slugs and ladybirds! We wonder what minibeasts you might be able to find at home in your garden, or perhaps when out and about at the park? We are going to learn so much this term!

**Expressive Arts and Design**- On the art table we created a garden with fingerprinted minibeasts, made a paper plate ladybird and made junk model minibeasts. We are really enjoying our "Role Play" areas, which have been transformed into minibeast labs and exploration centres. In Charanga we listened and moved to music, found the pulse and talked about the tempo, dynamics (volume) and pitch of the music and the voices we heard. We even created a class composition using two notes, which we played altogether on keyboards and glockenspiels.

### **Supporting learning at home**

- Practise forming your letters.
- Practise writing numbers to twenty – can you say one more / one less than any of these numbers?
- How many minibeasts can you name?
- Go on a minibeast hunt.
- Read every day!

### **Notes for next week 28.04.25**

- Please remember to bring a coat, sunhat, bookbag and water bottle every day. On sunny days, please apply a long lasting suncream to your child in the morning.
- On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> we have our visit from Zoolab. Please use your ParentPay account to make your donation.

