

St Mary's C of E Primary School

Butterfly Class Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10th February 2023

Dear Families,

Learning about insects has been so much fun! The children loved the minibeast hunt that we went on and they also enjoyed our 'Ugly Bug Ball'. So much so, that a few children asked if we could have one everyday!

In literacy we have been reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, *Mad About Minibeasts*, *What the Ladybird Heard*, and sung Nursery Rhymes involving spiders, e.g. *Incy Wincy Spider*. We have looked at the life cycle of a caterpillar, thinking about how important it is to sequence these stages correctly. We have also used our phonics to try to write some of the insects we have learnt about. The children enjoyed describing characters and practised listening to whispered messages, just like the Ladybird from *What the Ladybird Heard*.

In maths, we have been extending our number knowledge up to 8 and have continued to work on composition of numbers. It is so important for children to recognise how larger numbers are made. Using composition knowledge helps to prepare for future learning such as addition, multiplication and division. The children have been using their fingers and 'part, part, whole' models to work out how different numbers are made and this is something we have seen huge progress with. The numberblocks continue to be very popular in the class and the children have watched some episodes on the number 7 and number 8.

As well as number combinations, we have also been learning about matching, pairing and finding the odd one out. The children have been learning through game play by playing memory matching games, finding the odd sock out and pairing different objects in the classroom. They had to make a matching pair of socks using different shape patterns and all did really well at remembering their shapes.

The children are now in the lunch hall on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. After half term, we will be in the hall every day for lunch. We have been so proud of how easy they have found the transition and lunch time staff have commented on how well mannered the children are

- The children have also started attending two assemblies a week. Every time we attend, multiple people comment on their excellent behaviour!

Notices for the week:

- Please remember to send any phonics books back in on a daily basis as we use these in class. We have seen such superb progress!
- You have received information about a Fairytale workshop that will be taking place after half term. Please make sure you have paid for this using Weduc. If there are any problems, please speak to the office.
- Thank you for continuing to change 'reading for pleasure' books no more than twice a week. Just a gentle reminder to record reading in diaries please. This can just be a signature to let us know that reading has been done or you can leave a more detailed comment. Reading diaries are checked every Monday.
- We do a lot of craft activities in reception and are always running short of egg boxes. If you have egg boxes, please can you send them in as we will definitely use them!
- Please remember to book a meal for your child each day.
- If your child has a blending book, please send this to school everyday because we use this in class.
- Please avoid letting your child bring any toys to school.
- We would be very grateful if all clothing and other school related items could be labelled. We have had lots of jumpers that have gone missing recently and if they are not labelled it is impossible to return them to the correct person.
- **If your child is being collected by anyone that doesn't usually pick them up, please let the office or the teacher know directly as we are unable to send children home with anyone other than the adult/s we usually send them home with.**

Optional home learning:

- Our bug hunt was such a huge success so you could try one at home or at the local park over half term. The children could make their own tick list of insects to find or draw a picture of their

favourite insect and use their phonics to write the name of the insect they have chosen.

- We have also sent home a sheet entitled, "February Half Term 2023". We would love to hear about what your child has got up to.

Best wishes,
Mrs Davies, Mrs Sage and Mrs King

