



WEEKLY PARENT NEWSLETTER – Reception Cubs 2 June 2014

Important Dates and Messages

- Please bring a **named hat or visor** to protect children from the sun
- Please send in a **sun cream** with **your child's name** on it so they can practise applying it before play times for our themed learning.
- Please remember to send a **water bottle** each day as the weather is getting warmer and it's important that the children stay hydrated
- **Indoor shoes** – Over the next term we would like to phase in all children having separate indoor shoes for school. We kindly ask that all parents provide their children with a change of shoes for indoor play, these can be kept in their cubbies and put on once at school. Children will then change into their outdoor shoes for outdoor play. Providing your children with a pair of comfortable slip-on (with back) indoor shoes helps to keep our Cubs area cleaner whilst ensuring your child's comfort and safety.



Learning Theme of the week

Last week's big question was **"How will we transform?"**

The children had fun watching then creating their own transformer dance. They noted how a robot might move then drew a set of instructions which they used to teach others their dance. They also saw how all living things transform and compared different life cycles. They saw that there were many similarities and that they were all cycles. The children had the opportunity to watch a Year 1 assembly and also have a chat with Mr Clayden about their own transformations from Reception Cubs to Year 1 children.

This week's big question is **"What does the sun do?"**



Following on from life cycles we will look at the life cycle of a sunflower. We will watch a time lapse of a sunflower growing and making new seeds. We will of course plant our own sunflowers and hopefully we'll see them grow. We will then look at how the sun changes other things. We'll



place some black stones in the sun and in the shade and feel the difference the sun makes to their temperature. We'll also place black paper in the sun and shade and add a strip of sun cream to see how this stops the paper changing colour. We can then talk about sun safety, wearing sun cream and a hat to protect our skin from the sun. So please remember to send in a named hat and sun cream so the children can practise applying it before play times. The children will make sun safety posters and we'll add these to our new role play area a "Sun Safe Shop" where you can buy sun glasses, hats, water bottles and sun cream. If you have any used items that you can add to our shop we would be very grateful!

We will also continue to think about moving to year 1. We'll visit the Year 1 canteen and toilets as well as their class rooms and spot similarities and differences.

In numeracy the children will continue to think about functions. What can you do to a number to change it? Most children saw how you can add to or subtract from a number so this week we will look at doubling or halving. Lots of practical work will be necessary at first to ensure the children can see what halving and doubling means. This is something you might like to practise at home. Ask the children to share food onto 2 plates (halving) or to double toys or objects. This tower has 4 bricks can you make a different one with double that number? This flower has 5 petals can you draw one with double that number?

Some of the main learning intentions taught and explored this week will be:

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.
- Children begin to develop their own narratives by connecting ideas.
- Children use past and future forms accurately when talking about events.

Mathematics

- Children will continue practising their counting; reading and writing numbers.
- Children solve number problems using halving and doubling.

Expressive arts and design

- Children explore a variety of materials, experimenting with colour design, texture, function and form
- Children explore and experiment with ways of changing materials.

Understanding the World

- Children know about similarities and differences in relation to environment as well as living things
- Children know about a range of properties and communicate observations
- Children make observations of materials and explain why some things occur and talk about change

Physical development

- Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements
- Children move confidently in a range of ways
- Children handle equipment effectively

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HELPING OTHERS
TO BE THE BEST
THEY CAN BE

Personal Social and Emotional Behaviour

- Children talk about their own and other's behavior and its consequences, and know that some behavior is unacceptable.
- Children are confident to try new activities and say why they like some activities more than others

Phonics

Puffer Fish- Spelling tricky words +aw

Sharks- read and spell words with adjacent consonants.

Octopus-ure+ tricky words to read

Jelly Fish- sh, ch

Mandarin

This week the children will be talking about summer. We will introduce a song and a video which is called 'Summer Coming (夏天来了)'. Our big question is 'Where are you going? What are you going to do in summer holiday?(暑假你要去哪里? 暑假你要做什么?)'

Vocabulary : summer holiday 暑假 (shu jia) hot 热 (re) sun glasses 太阳眼镜 (taiyangyanjing) ice cream 冰淇淋 (bingqilin) swimming 游泳 (youyong) beach 海边 (haibian)

As always thank you for all the boxes you have sent in! We have used so many this week making our function machine robots! Keep them coming!

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Many thanks again.

The Reception Team.