



Welcome to the Reception class newsletter—full of key information for the term ahead. This term, our context for learning is:

Life Cycles

Reception Team: Class teachers—Mrs Heaney and Ms Tuhin

Class TAs - Mrs Davis and Mrs Hutchison

Literacy

We have begun the term by planting beans and starting our bean diaries. We will be writing our observations each week as our beans grow.

Later in the term, we will be reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle and writing our own versions of the story by changing the character and the food it eats. We will also be observing our own caterpillars journey from chrysalis to butterflies and writing mini beast fact books.

Mathematics

In Maths, we will continue to develop our deep understanding of numbers to 10 including number bonds and subitising (recognising quantities without counting) to 5. We will cement our learning of odd and even numbers, as well as doubling and halving. We will also use different manipulatives to represent subtraction and addition number sentences.

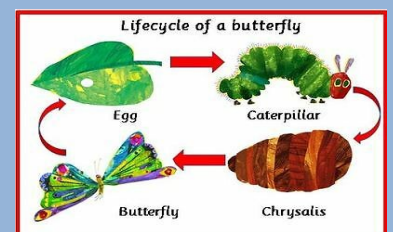
We will use our planting topic to consider the language of size, capacity and weight.

We will be linking our butterfly observations with looking at symmetry in the natural world and having a go at making our own symmetrical patterns using a range of materials.

Understanding the World

As well as observing the lifecycle of a butterfly, we will be learning about mini beasts and things that grow in the garden. We will be putting our learning into practise by studying different mini beasts around school and growing our own plants. We will be noting the changes that happen to plants during their lifecycle and learning about the importance of a balanced, healthy diet from fruit and vegetables grown in the garden.

As part of looking at human life cycles we will take care of babies in our baby clinic and hopefully meet some of the baby siblings of our Classmates.





ELIOT BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Expressive Arts and Design

This term, both Reception classes will have Music lessons with Mr Prescott every Thursday and will prepare for a Summer Performance. As part of our human life cycles learning, we will sing lullabies from around the world.

PE

Indoor PE this term will continue to be on Tuesdays. Please ensure your child wears their full kit to school on these days. In Dance we will create life cycle dances to 'Metamorphosis' by Phillip Glass.

Reading

Your child will continue to be encouraged to take story books home to share with you. Please use the books to help your child identify tricky words and CVC words that they can sound out.

Continue to support your child in their reading by logging into Big Cat reading scheme and by practising phonics and tricky words at home. Reading books will no longer be chosen by staff and sent home as they do not correspond to our phonics programme. If you wish to choose some reading books for your child to read at home, please feel free to approach staff.

Personal, Social and Emotional development

We will continue to have regular Circle Times focusing on sharing, team work, and awareness of others. We will also be learning self-regulation techniques to help us to calm the body, such as finger breathing.

Reminders

Jewellery: The only jewellery we allow are watches and stud earrings. If possible your child should not wear earrings on PE days.

Uniform: As the weather heats up, please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name and encourage them to look after their belongings. If you are unsure about school uniform, please look on the school website.

We endeavour to be a nut free school. Please be aware of this when you prepare your child's lunch box. This includes peanut butter, Nutella, pesto, hummus and products with sesame seeds.

Birthdays: If you would like to make a gift of a book for the class to celebrate your child's birthday, that would be much appreciated.

Water bottles: Please ensure your child brings in a named water bottle, filled with water, each day.

Sun Screen: Please ensure you apply sunscreen to your child's exposed skin on hot days. Staff cannot apply sunscreen to children but they may instruct them on how to apply it themselves from a clearly labelled bottle, which we can store at school.

Home Learning

Big Cat books online and books from the class library: We expect children to read 4-5 times a week and record this in their journal (to be signed by their parent/ carer). Story books are changed every Wednesday.

Google Classroom:

Please look out for messages about our class learning on our Google Classroom.

Important dates

Coronation Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May

Half term

Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

Inset Day

Monday 5th June

Last day of term

Thursday 20th July