



Hedgehogs Summer Term Newsletter



Dear Parents,

We would like to start by saying how impressed we are with the way the children have come back to school after the holidays, settled, enthusiastic (as ever!) and ready to learn. This term is going to be a busy one, with exciting visits to look forward to (let's hope the weather is on our side!). We have already started by being very busy writers all week and the Superhero writing challenge each morning will be encouraging some super independent writing.

This term there is a big focus on preparing the children for their transitions from Hedgehogs to Foxes. We will be working closely with Mrs Tucker, Mrs O'Leary and Mrs Hughes to ensure the transition is as easy for the children as possible.



This term we will be looking at Minibeasts, Lifecycles and Growing/Changing. This is the perfect project for Spring and Summer, with lots of scope for play and investigation in outside spaces. Looking at minibeasts provides opportunities to learn about how we care for other creatures and for our environment, as well as plenty of counting and sequencing activities. There is a wealth of fiction and non-fiction books that relate to minibeasts to support the topic.

We will be using 'Talk for Writing' to learn stories off by heart and later use our sounds to write our own stories using the original story map to help us. All children will also continue with spellings, key words, reading and handwriting

The children will be involved in activities indoors and outdoors. They will have opportunities to apply skills they have learnt in teaching sessions through their chosen child initiated activities.

Communication, Language and Literacy

Children will be learning to interact with others through role play, circle time and group adult led activities. They will learn to develop story language and extend their vocabulary through this term's theme of Minibeasts.

Children will continue to learn their letter sounds through daily phonic sessions and continue to develop their reading and writing skills through blending and segmenting words. The children will be expected to start writing simple sentences using capital letters and full stops with greater independence.

We will continue to send home a reading book on **Monday** and Thursday for your child to share with you. Please remember to sign when you have heard your child read. We will also be sharing books with your child regularly in Guided Reading. If any parents would like to come in and hear a group of children read, please come and see us.

We will continue to work on handwriting using correct pencil grip and letter formation.

Maths

In Maths we will be teaching children to count numbers from 1 to 20, placing them in order and saying which number is one more or one less than a given number using quantities and objects. We will also be adding and subtracting two single-digit numbers, counting on or back to find the answer. In practical activities and play children will explore and investigate counting, calculating, pattern, shape and measuring. Children will learn to understand quantities, estimating, comparing and ordering. Every day we will focus on reading, writing and ordering numbers to 20, leading up to and above 100, alongside various counting activities. We will continue to work on addition and subtraction within these numbers and continue to develop the children's mental skills.



Understanding the World

This encompasses exploration, investigation and understanding time, places and communities. The children will have opportunities to learn more about the world around them. Welly Walks will continue as usual on Monday afternoons with myself, Mrs Clark and Mrs Larcombe. Please make sure your child has wellies every week even though we expect the weather to improve. **Forest School has now finished for this year.**

Expressive Arts and Design

This incorporates being creative, exploring different media and materials, creating music and dance and developing imaginative play. The children will develop their listening and imaginative skills through music and dance sessions and we will have opportunities to explore artistic styles and work by famous artists.

Physical Development

The children will have PE sessions on Wednesday afternoons **AND** Thursday morning each week. They will continue to learn about the importance of being active and how to recognise changes to their bodies. Children will learn simple game skills as well as having the daily opportunity to be physically active in our outdoor area riding on bikes and trikes in the garden.

Swimming

Hedgehogs will begin swimming sessions each Monday morning,



leaving school at 10.00am. The children will be taken by myself and Mrs Hughes. More details will follow later.



Please, please, please remember to continue to write a WOW slip as often as possible, **(at least once a week)** so that we can have the most accurate and rounded view of your child's learning at home as well as in school.

Please also continue to check the school website regularly for additional diary dates, and further information about your child's learning and keeping your child safe when working and playing online. The North Newton School Facebook page also has our most up to date photo gallery for you to view.

Useful apps to support your child at home!

Please remember to supervise your child when they are using a tablet/PC or any device which connects to the internet.

Purplemash - so many wonderful learning opportunities to explore and every child has their own unique password (please see me if you no longer have yours!)

Hairy letters- a fun an interactive way to learn letter sounds and formation

Squeebles - Spellings - to read, listen to and practise spellings/key words - far more exciting than just writing them out!

Twinkl lite (free) Twinkl - brilliant reading and phonics app

Activelearn (previously known as Bug Club) - many of the books we have in school online to read at home. Now accessible on an ipad/iphone! Each child has their own access log in for this website too.

Other useful websites - Topmarks (Maths and English) and Phonicsplay- the children will be able to navigate you around this fabulous resource! This also has a subscription option if you would like full access to the learning resources.

Also a reminder that each child needs their **own drinks bottle each day** with their name clearly labelled as well as **wellies each Monday please**.

When the weather does improve, please ensure your child has sun cream applied before school and a sun hat to wear during outdoor play.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Crow, Mrs Adams, Mrs Larcombe and Mrs Clark