



April 29, 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have been enjoying the sunnier weather we have had since the beginning of the summer term.

Topic: We have started our topic: **Why Do Spiders Spin Webs?** We are exploring non-fiction texts to find out about different minibeasts and their habitats. We are also enjoying listening to lots of stories that feature different minibeasts. This week the children wrote their own fact file using some of the facts they read about. Their writing is progressing well and the children are becoming more independent in their work. Please support your child to use their emerging skill by asking them to 'use their sounds' to write minibeast names on card/paper. Use the cards to play 'pictionary' as a family.

Sound books: Please continue to work on letter formation by guiding your child to form the letters correctly. Sound books will come home every Thursday and should be returned by the following Tuesday so that they can be marked and prepared for the following week. Try to have fun with this so that it doesn't become a chore and please keep to **one** page per letter. Please also encourage your child to **draw a picture** of something **or** to **write a word** starting with that sound.

Phonics: The children have been very good at remembering single letter sounds, but some double and triple letter sounds (diagraphs and trigraphs) are still proving tricky. Please keep working on these together at home. A secure knowledge of these sounds will really boost your child's reading and writing.

ng (sing)	ch (chop)	sh (shop)
th (the/thin)	qu (queen)	ai (pain)
ee (keep)	ie (pie)	oa (soap)
oo (look/pool)	ue (blue)	er (her)
or (for)	oi (oil)	ou (out)
ow (how)	ur (fur)	ea (sea)
ure (cure)	ear (hear)	air (hair)

Reading: Book change days continue to be Monday and Friday. Please ensure that your child has their reading book and reading record book in school on these days. Remember, anytime you read with your child to date and sign the book even if you don't always have time to write a comment. **Number Work**: The children have been enthusiastically learning to double numbers to 10 by pretending to be doubling machines. This week we have also introduced 'halving'.

Junk modelling: We would be very grateful if you have any spare egg cartons, tubes or boxes you can donate. The children will be using these to create their own minibeasts or minibeast habitats or work on their own projects following their interests

Water Bottles: A gentle reminder that your child's bottle should contain water – no juice please as stated in the school policy. We would also like to remind you **not** to put your child's bottle in their book bag as we have had a number of 'accidents' with water spoiling reading books and reading diaries.

PE: The children are enjoying PE – inside we have been using benches to practise 'travelling' and outside we have been developing ball skills. Please continue to practise dressing and undressing as it will benefit them greatly and support their growing independence.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Reception Team