



DORMICE AND ROBINS CURRICULUM LETTER SPRING 2018



'Creepy Crawlies and I Do Like to be Beside the Seaside,'

We hope that you have all had an enjoyable holiday and wish you a very happy new year. Your children are now well settled into school. If you haven't yet returned the comments part of the interim reports, please do send them in - your feedback is much appreciated.

This term we are planning lots of exciting learning for your children! Our topic for the first half term is entitled- Creepy Crawlies and will focus on snails, worms, plants and trees. This will help to develop the children's understanding of how to look after plants and animals as well as developing an understanding of growth, change, similarities and differences. After half term we will change to 'I Do Like to be Beside the Seaside.' Below is an outline of what we have planned which will be added to each week by the children's own planning.

Theme 1- Snails and worms

In this work we will use a variety of stories about snails as a stimulus for our learning. We will meet our new class snail called Claude and research how to look after and care for him. We are also hoping to buy some pond snails which will encourage and support discussion about similarities and differences. Our maths work will focus on counting, reading and writing numbers.

Theme 2- Planting and Growing

Our topic about plants and trees will use key texts such as Jaspers Beanstalk and Jack and the Beanstalk to stimulate our learning. We will be planting a variety of seeds and conducting experiments to explore what plants need to grow and thrive. We are hoping to have a school trip to Saltram for a forest schools experience but this is yet to be confirmed. Our maths learning will focus on 2D shape and early concepts of time.

Theme 4 - The Beach

This will allow us to compare habitats and environments, make observations and encourage discussion. We are hoping to visit the beach and create some fantastic outdoor artwork along with our very own non-fiction books and leaflets to inform others. Key texts may include Sally and The Limpet, Commotion in the Ocean, The Rainbow Fish and non-fiction books. Maths will continue to focus on number, but we will also be teaching 3D shape and addition and subtraction.

Theme 4- Easter

This will provide a context for the Easter story and a visit to the church. We are planning to create Easter gardens and learn how eggs grow into chicks.

During the term the children will continue to have daily phonics lessons as well as regular shared reading and writing opportunities. Every day they will also have opportunities to develop physical skills outside. We are hoping that your children will all be coming in to school all by themselves so that they develop further independence.

Helping at home

Please continue to use the home-school books to let us know about home learning. We expect that all children will read at home and continue to learn their keywords. We endeavour to regularly change books but please pop in if ever

you would like more books. If you have anything that you feel would add to the topics above, please let us know. Please send in any WOW moments. Hugs and Spotty will continue to come home for the weekends - thank you so much for your support with this, it is an important part of our learning and the children love hearing about Hugs' adventures.

Key dates

January 15th clubs start.

January 29th Coffee afternoon with a focus on real P.E

Thursday 8th February – Open day.

Half Term- 12th-16th February

March 12th Coffee afternoon with a focus on Early Learning Goals and end of year assessment.

M & M Productions, performance of Treasure Island in March – date tbc

Easter Tea-29th March

Thank you very much for all your support. If you have any queries, please ask. Finally, we are always grateful for help in class and this term we are hoping to set up a weekly cooking group so if you have a free afternoon and would like to help out, please let us know via the green home-school link books.

Best wishes,

The Foundation Team.