

Term 4 Newsletter (Turtles)

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 4! We are very pleased to see that the sun is shining and we've already started to spot some signs of Spring around school. Thank you for your support in bringing our library books back into school, the children do seem to enjoy their visits to the library.

Class Teacher- Jocelyn Learning Support Assistant – Sharon PPA cover- Jo (Monday pm), Becky (Wednesday pm).

Enquiry Questions this term: I wonder how plants and animals grow?

This term we are asking the question, how do plants and animals grow? Hopefully this will allow us to spend lots of time outside. This term is all about growing, we will be looking at a range of plants and animals to see how they grow. We have already planted sunflower seeds, the variety we've planted may grow as tall as 3 meters so we may have some enormous plants before long! The children were delighted to find frogspawn in the pond on Monday and we look forward to watching them develop. We also hope to plant some vegetables later in the term, if you are a keen gardener who might have some vegetables to donate we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus on the right:

Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

We will be looking at this right through the lens of kindness, support and how we can help each other to stay safe.

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website. [Please click here to view the overview for this term. \(PS\)](#)

Home Learning

Reading

We would encourage you to read to your child every day. Any opportunity to read stories, or to look at picture books with your child is greatly encouraged. Reading stories together is a great way to foster a love of reading and to build listening and attention skills as well promoting language skills and the development of a vivid imagination.

Spelling

Whilst we will not be doing spellings in pre-school, promoting name recognition is a good skill to support children within their everyday experiences, such as finding their self-registration card.

Maths

Children are expected to practise key number facts at home regularly.

Pre-School & Reception

[Click here to view our parent guide on how to support with mathematics.](#) This has lots of ideas on play-based activities to help your child with key mathematical skills.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise early number facts at home. <https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice.

[Early Years](#)

[Busy Things can be accessed from home with useful maths games and activities.](#)

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.

[Early Years](#)

[Busy Things also have some good games for times table recall practice, particularly miner birds.](#)

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

Morning Drop-Offs

This term, we will ensure the gate is opened at 8.45am so that should the weather not be the kindest, you can wait undercover until the doors open at 9am.

Class Page

You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.

Nature Area

We explore our nature area on Mondays and Wednesdays which can get wet and muddy! Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothing for this, has a pair of wellies in school and pack spare clothing in case they need to change.

School Clothing Guidance

Please see the [page on our website](#) for more information on appropriate clothing for school.

Library Day

Our Library Day is on a Friday.

Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.

What does my child need to bring into school every day?

- Wellies and a coat.
- Filled Water Bottle.
- Spare changes of clothing: top, bottoms, underwear, socks, another pair of shoes.
- Nappies and wet wipes if needed.

Questions or concerns

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to Holly or Becky during drop off or pick up times, alternatively you can send an email to info@somerdaleet.org.uk.

Healthy Snacks for Playtime

In the Early Years and Key Stage One, the children are provided with a free piece of fruit or vegetable via the Government scheme.