



# Ducklings and Penguins Newsletter - Summer 1



## Welcome back!

We hope you had a lovely time with your families!  
We are looking forward to brighter, warmer weather and being able to get outside much more.

This term we have lots planned for the children to do with our new topic, Amazing Animals!

We are so grateful for all of your support this year so far.  
Please continue to read with your child at home, as this really makes a difference.

Please do come see us if you have any questions or concerns, you are always welcome.

## Focus on Forest Fridays

Forest Fridays allow us to have a focus on outdoor learning every Friday afternoon. An important part of this time is learning to recognise the changes in the seasons over the course of the year. We get to know the plants and special places around the school grounds and look to see how they change.

The activities we do range from a simple exploratory welly walk to tasks such as finding a safe nest for a hibernating hedgehog or looking for frogspawn in our courtyard pond, to more play-based activities such as mixing potions or using mirrors to look underneath leaves and flowers. We now have a special area in our own little woodland where we can sit and have stories and sing songs. Mrs Abbott has also been training to become a Forest School Leader and hopes to use some of her training with the children soon!

## Amazing Animals



We have a busy, fun-packed term ahead of us! Our focus this term is on Amazing Animals. We will be thinking about animals and plants and how they grow and change. We will also be using our learning from last term about our world, and thinking about where animals live based on their needs and habitats.

We will start this term by having some special visitors from a local farm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April. Children will have an opportunity to learn about the animals' needs and may even have a chance to care for them themselves. This will be a wonderful hands on experience for the children.

We will spending lots of time outdoors, seeing if we can spot any signs of new life around the school grounds, growing plants in our outside area, hunting for bugs and going for welly walks.

This term also marks an important National event with the King's Coronation in May. We look forward to discussing this special time with the children and coming together as a school to celebrate!

## Other Information

### Reminders

Please be aware that our PE days continue to be Wednesday and Thursday, so we would appreciate it if the children could make sure they are in clothes that allow easy movement on these days. This should be shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms and the footwear should be trainers. We kindly ask that children do not wear skirts or dresses on these days.

As the warmer days appear, children are welcome to bring in a named sunhat and we suggest applying a long-lasting suncream before coming in to school. Teachers and adults in school are not permitted to apply to suncream to children in school.

Our library day continues to be Thursday so please make sure children bring their current library book in that day so that they can exchange it for a new one.

Please send reading folders in **every day** as the day for changing their phonics book may change depending on their group. Reading records are seen by your child's sound group teacher on Thursdays.

Thank you for your continued support

The Year R team

## A BIG THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Easter workshops. We know it is not always easy or possible to attend events in school but we were so pleased to see so many families attend. We hope you enjoyed the chance to join us in the classroom and spend some time with your child in their school environment!