



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. We take turns having Forest Friday (Ducklings one week, Penguins the next) and our sessions are led by Mrs Abbott who is a trained Forest School Leader.

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.

We now have a special area in our own little woodland where we can sit and have stories, drink hot chocolate or even make a fire! We might have set activities such as finding a home for a hedgehog or looking for frogspawn in the courtyard alongside free-play in our small woodlands where we can hunt for bugs or build dens. We learn how to use tools such as loppers and secateurs safely.

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. This builds upon our learning from last term when we explored *New Life* and searched for signs of Spring.

A highlight this term will be our visit from Mill Cottage Farm on Friday 9th May. 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.

This term we will also be exploring our creative side with some animal-inspired music sessions in our music room with Mrs Rigby and artwork inspired by our featured artist, Jackson Pollock. We will also be thinking about how we can help people, animals and the world around us, whether it be learning the importance of taking turns or looking after our very own jelly baby for the day!

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.

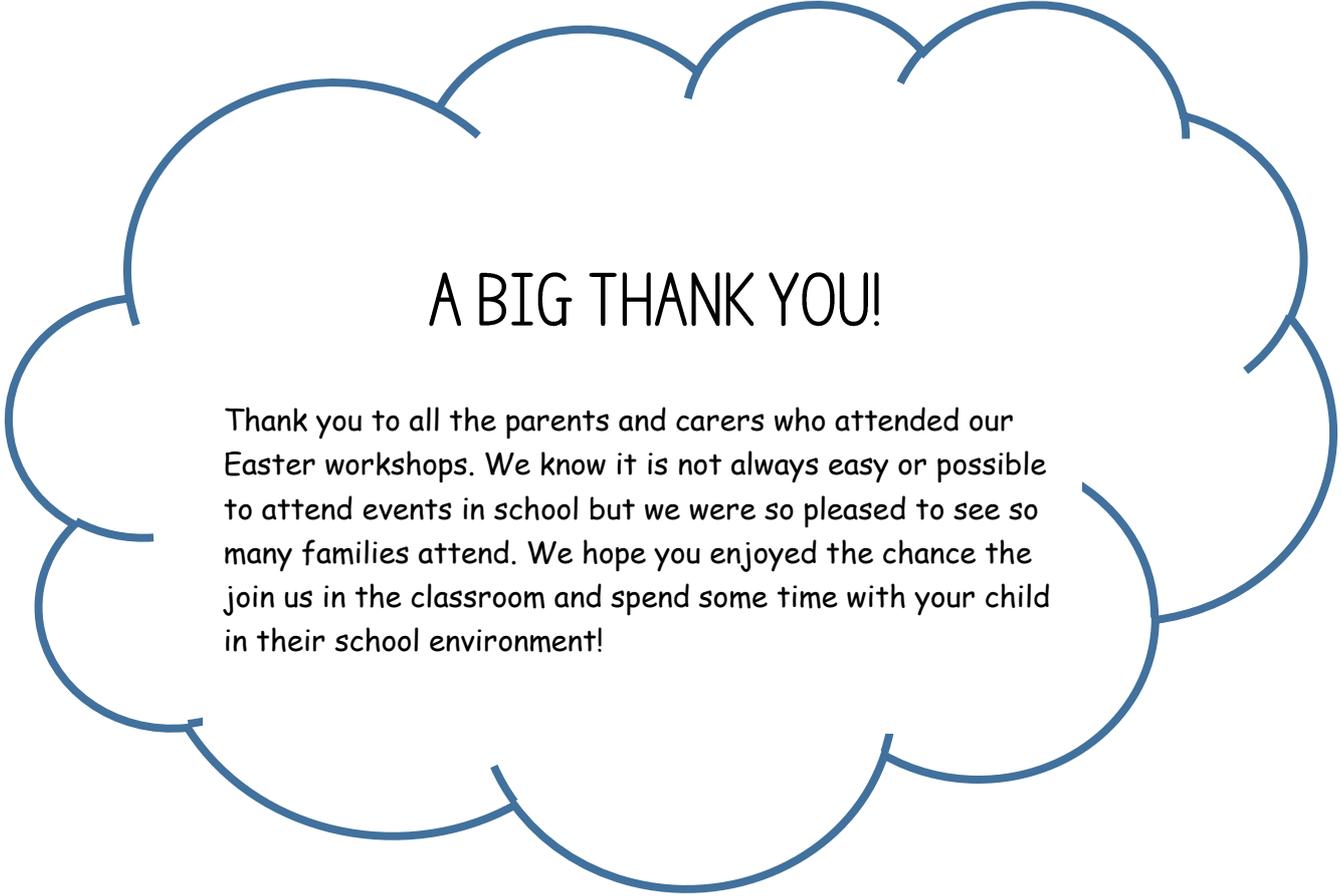
As the warmer days appear, children are welcome to bring in a named sunhat and we suggest applying a long-lasting sunscreen before coming in to school. Teachers and adults in school are not permitted to apply to sunscreen to children in school.

Our library day continues to be Monday 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!