



# Thameside Primary School

## News from the Foundation Stage

### Parents as Partners

### Spring 2019

The Foundation Stage Team: Mrs Thomas, Miss Hill, Mrs Green, Mrs Vugler, Mrs Lamb, Ms Sutherland and Mrs Chowdhury

What an action-packed term we have had with a performance of *The Hobbit*, World Book Day, World Story Telling Day, a smoothie workshop, Pancake Day, a yoga workshop and a boat trip!

We look forward to warmer weather and our Summer theme of 'Growing' which will see us visiting Rushall Farm and The 5-A-Day Market Garden as well as exploring all the changes this season has to offer at the Outdoor Classroom.

### World Book Day



We were very impressed to see such inventive outfits as the whole school dressed up to celebrate World Book Day! The children were so excited and talked about their favourite book characters with such enthusiasm!

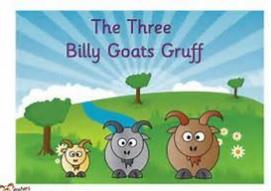
### Topics Next Term

We are going to plant cress seeds as an introduction to the topic of 'Growing' next term.



On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May, we will be visiting The 5-A-Day Market Garden and Rushall Farm thanks to the generosity of Ella's Kitchen who are paying for the trip. This is an action-packed day in which the children will use all their senses as they explore how plants grow and see animals down at the farm. We will be needing some volunteers to accompany us on this fantastic trip. If you think you might be able to help please indicate on the farm letter which was sent home this week. Please ensure your child has appropriate outdoor clothing, wellies and a packed lunch.

Our focus fiction books will be *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, a well-known and loved traditional tale and *Jack and the Beanstalk* followed by *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Our non-fiction focus will be minibeasts.



## Tapestry



We are so pleased to see that so many of you have activated your Tapestry accounts. If you have not yet had a chance to do so, it is a great opportunity for you to see all of the wonderful things that your child has been doing at school. If you are having any trouble with this, or with your accounts in general, please let a member of the Foundation Stage team know and we will endeavour to fix the problem as soon as possible.

As staff, we have found that being able to upload photos, videos and observations of your children instantly is a great way for us to capture the learning that is taking place at school. Another positive is that you can add your own comments to entries and can share your child's online journal with members of the family who would not usually be able to attend Parent/Teacher Meetings. You can also add your own learning and experiences from home.

In addition to the parent posts on Tapestry, we still very much welcome Proud Clouds from home. Please continue to hand us your 'Proud Clouds' or write a quick note on a post-it with your child's first-time accomplishments. If you have any photographs or comments you would like to add to your child's learning journey please give them to your child's class teacher.



## PE kits

Please ensure your child has their named PE kit in school at the beginning of each half term; it can be taken home at the end of term to be washed. If you would prefer to receive letters by email please let the office staff know.



## Book bags and Library Day

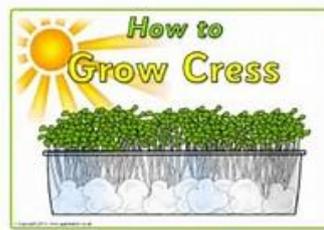


We advise that parents check children's book bags every day after school for letters. Children are asked to put all letters and things that they are taking home inside their book bag to save them carrying lots of bits of paper. All children in the Foundation Stage visit the **library on a Tuesday**. Please can you make sure that library books are in book bags on a Tuesday ready to be returned to the library. If a child does not return their book they will not be able to borrow a new one.

## Own Work

We really value your contributions and support especially with the Own Work projects, reading and handwriting. We are very excited to see the children's board games and are looking forward to our Board Game afternoon on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30pm in the school hall. Parents are all invited and a reminder text will go out on the first day back after the Easter Holidays – we hope to see you there! Unfortunately, due to the large number of people that will be in the hall, we are unable to accommodate siblings.

As we move into our new topic of 'Growing', we will be challenging the children to grow cress in unusual containers. Please keep your eyes peeled for the Own Work letter in the Summer term.



## Finally...

Our attendance target is 96% and this can only be achieved by prompt and regular attendance. We thank you for your support to ensure the learning and progress of every child.

Keep your eye on the parents' noticeboard for up to the minute information about events and activities throughout the term both here at school and within the wider community.

There is an INSET day on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May and Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> May. School will be closed to children on both of these days.

RLH class assembly will be on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 9am

RSC class assembly will be on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 9am

## 'Finger Gym' Idea

A five minute activity to liven up dried pasta. Maybe you could help your child to thread pasta shapes onto string to make a repeating coloured pattern or some funky jewellery?

Simply put the pasta in a plastic carrier or sandwich bag with a splash of food colouring and a squirt of sanitising hand gel. Give the bag a vigorous shake to coat all the pieces thoroughly.

Tip the contents of the bag onto a piece of newspaper or tray to dry out completely.

You are ready to go!

We would love to see your finished results!