

Curriculum Newsletter for Years R/1- Holly Class  
Spring Term 2009

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term the children will be learning independence and co-operation. They will be focusing on remembering to follow the school rules both inside and outside the classroom. They will be encouraged to speak out loud to the whole class and develop themselves as a listener and a speaker.

Language, Literacy and Communication

The main focus this term will be learning the last few initial phonemes (sounds) for the Reception children and to consolidate knowledge of all phonemes for the Year 1 children. They will be taught them through the 'Letters and Sounds' programme and the 'Jolly Phonics' programme. They will also be learning 'Tricky words' by sight and then begin to write them, eg. to, the, she, he, my. We will be focusing on segmenting and blending sounds in words orally and written. They will be looking at, and reading, rhyming texts and poems. The Year 1 children will be concentrating on using their knowledge of phonemes in their reading and writing in order to progress further. Speaking and Listening will be an important part of all activities in the classroom.

**Reading scheme books and keywords will be brought home every night. They will also bring home a reading record which is for you to look at, and then add to, every time you read the reading books and keywords with your child at home. Please can you ensure that their reading bags are in school everyday.**

Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

This term we will be focusing on number and calculations. The Reception children will be learning to read and write numbers to 20 and the Year 1 children will be extending this, to numbers to 100. They will continue to sing number songs and rhymes. We will begin to use these numbers in addition and subtraction calculations. We will also be looking at money, length and time.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

The topics for this term will be 'Weather and the Seasons' and 'The Environment and Recycling'. We will be looking at different kinds of

weather and the four seasons. Then we will focus on the environment and how we can look after it and recycling. As part of this topic we hope to visit the local recycling centre in Castle Cary. We will be thinking about 'The World Around Us' in R.E. and then it will be Easter and the children will sing Easter songs in Church. In ICT the children will be learning about the computers and go on programs that help develop keyboard knowledge.

**We have really enjoyed our weekly 'Welly Walks' in Holly Class. This will continue and be an adventure around either the school grounds or the local area. The focus of the walk will change depending on the weather, the topic, the season, etc. We will begin by looking at the changes in the environment and weather and then hopefully look for signs of Spring! In order for us to do a weekly 'Welly Walk' the children will need to have their own wellies (labelled) in school all the time. They will also need to have labelled spare trousers/skirt and tights/socks in a carrier bag in their P.E. bags and a sensible coat so that we can go out regardless of the weather!**

#### Physical Development

The PE focus this term will be on dance and gym. The children will be gaining confidence in the hall and outside. They will be doing activities which help them gain an awareness of space for themselves and others. They will be learning the skills of rolling, jumping, moving safely and moving in a sequence. **PE will be twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays, but it is a good idea for the children to keep their PE bags in school all the time.**

#### Creative Development

Music this term will be learning songs and becoming familiar with different musical instruments. The children will learn songs related to the weather, seasons and Easter. The children will be doing lots of art work, including painting, drawing, printing, pastelling and playdough.