



## Fortnightly Newsletter



30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

I feel like I keep repeating myself but the time really is passing by far too quickly! I can't believe that there are only three weeks remaining of the school year before your children officially leave Key Stage 1 to become juniors!! Although the year seems to have flown by, we have certainly had a lot of fun and your children have made so much progress – I am very proud of each and every one of them.

The children were very excited about the East Bridgford Village Show and it was lovely to hear about what they got up to. I was so disappointed to not be able to attend for the first time in 15 years (due to a very special family event) but they told me all about it. A huge well done to those children who made the effort to enter either a decorated wooden spoon and/or some delicious chocolate krispie cakes – we are very proud of you!

I hope you all enjoyed our Key Stage 1 Sports Day on Wednesday afternoon. The children certainly had a lot of fun and we were all very proud of how well they supported each other and tried their very best. Always an enjoyable event – especially the space hopper races!



It was lovely to see so many of you at the school BBQ last night – we were very lucky with the weather as we usually are and all of the children who were able to attend seemed to be having a great time with their friends and families.

We have been working very hard over the last couple of weeks. Our 'Animal Part' topic is well underway now and the visit from 'Lion Learners' has been invaluable – we have been able to refer back to so much of the information that we learnt first-hand during that visit. Our most recent work has been about animal groups and the children have spent time discussing a range of different living things and from this have been able to classify them into six groups – amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, birds, mammals and fish. Hopefully, they should be able to tell you a little bit about their learning!

We are still enjoying our outdoor P.E. sessions with Nick every Friday and have been lucky enough to use the field this half term. Nick introduced the game of rounders to the children and they absolutely loved it! We were both so impressed with how quickly they picked up the basic rules of the game and worked so well as a team as fielders. We were also very impressed with their accurate throwing and catching at this age – all the different skills covered in P.E. this year with both Gordon and Nick have certainly paid off!

#### Maths:

We have now finished our work on telling the time. This is a unit that will be revisited in Year 3. The children have worked really hard but a lot of it has been quite challenging – especially time telling in five-minute intervals and matching analogue times to digital times. Any extra practice of this over the summer holidays would be very useful and there is a learning game on 'Top Marks' that helps with this. It is free app and the children love it! We are now moving on to fractions for some light relief!

#### English:

As well as spelling, handwriting and reading comprehensions, the children are continuing to really enjoy our writing focus. We have worked so hard on a range of writing skills and styles through 'Talk for Writing'. This has involved learning the original story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears with actions, creating and editing our own story maps and writing an edited beginning, middle and end. We have also used a range of descriptive sentences and looked at dialogue and sentence starters in closer detail. Once our 'Hot Write' stories are complete, they should be a joy to behold after all that hard work!

#### Spelling:

I also continue to be very impressed with how well the children have performed in their weekly spelling tests as the word lists are getting trickier. Although we do work on spelling rules during

the week, I appreciate the support and encouragement from home which is clearly helping – thank you! One more spelling test to go!!

### Reading:

Please continue to encourage your child to read at least three times a week and continue to sign it in the diary pages of their planner – I really appreciate your support with this. As always, I am quite happy for children to record their own home reading into their diary under your supervision if this is easier. I am also happy for children to read their own books from home or the library if they wish to, but it is important that any reading is still recorded in their diary so that the children are able to earn their gold and platinum reading certificates at the end of the year – thank you! I will continue to be checking diaries every Friday and will award stickers as a reward for regular reading. If books need changing in between your child's nominated book change day, they will need to let me know and I can organise an extra book.

### Extra Treat

Yesterday, we enjoyed a little class concert and a picnic. It was a very relaxed, informal affair and I was so pleased that all the children took part in some way. We had jokes, tricks, dancing, singing and even some gymnastic skills! I was so impressed by the confidence of the children – a really enjoyable, fun afternoon. Look out for some 'in action' photos in the usual place!

### Additional Information:

- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for Tuesday and an outdoor kit for Friday sessions.
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June – School closed for children – Inset Day.
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July – bowling session at the bowls club (weather permitting)
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Open Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July – Race for Life (am)

Please keep checking my class page of the school website for all information, photos and updates.

Have a great, longer than usual weekend!

Mrs Gilbey