



**MIDHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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**Headteacher: Mr M Barnes**

2.5.2011.

**FOUNDATION STAGE  
TOPIC LETTER SUMMER 2011**

Dear Parents,

The children have begun the Summer term well with just two days as a warm-up taster. It's hard to believe that they will be completing their year in reception on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

On our two days in school the children have worked hard: in maths we have revised our knowledge in number and created our own '10 Black Dots' book. Thursday afternoon we enjoyed learning about the Royal Wedding as part of our knowledge and understanding of the world. Children participated in designing biscuits and plates, and making crowns, with lots of dressing up in role. They listened to traditional stories, particularly those ending with a royal wedding and used the V and A museum website to make their own coat of arms.

On-Going

In order to keep things going smoothly, please could you check that your child/children has/have everything they will need for this term when we will be outside for extended periods each day. Children should have school clothes suitable for the weather and appropriate footwear. A sun hat is essential. Please check PE clothes in case children have grown. Since many lessons will be on the field, plimsolls are necessary. As always, please name all clothing that children may take off during the day.

Swimming will begin shortly and a letter will be coming to you with details of what is necessary and when. It would be extremely helpful if two parents could help with dressing children.

**MINIBEASTS**

This term our topic is minibeasts. The children will explore, investigate, discover, create, practise and consolidate their developing knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes. Each week we will focus on one small creature to learn about its habitat, its life cycle, what it eats and the names of its body parts.

Many of our shared books will link directly to the topic using both fiction and non-fiction. Creativity will be encouraged throughout. Eric Carle and Julia Donaldson will feature as central authors. In our writing we are continuing to target punctuation but there will also be a focus on trying to 'sound out' simple words as we attempt spelling them.

The indoor role play area will be a Bug Lab and the outdoor play house will be made into a garden centre. The children have already started to make lists of what is needed. If you have

anything at home that would help support children's interests in role play please send them into school, e.g. tiny plastic bottles, plastic bugs, charts, magnifying glasses, books about insects you are willing for the children to use, flower pots, seed packets, etc.

In art we will be looking at the work of artists including Matisse. In music children will learn songs and listen to music, including the Flight of the Bumble Bee.

In maths we will be sorting, measuring, weighing and learning about capacity with lots of opportunities for practical work both indoors and out with an emphasis on real life experiences. Cooking will continue to support all areas of the curriculum but will be particularly used for maths.

Here is a week by week break down of what has been planned for the term.

Week beginning	theme	CLL	PSRN
3.5.11.	snails	The Snail and the Whale	length
9.5.11.	spiders	Robert the Bruce The very busy spider	length
16.5.11.	ants	One Hundred Hungry Ants	weighing
23.5.11.	worms	There's a Hair in my Dirt Pete & Re-Pete	weighing
Half term			
6.6.11.	bees	Non-fiction	sorting
13.6.11.	beetles	Non-fiction	sorting
20.6.11.	ladybirds	The bad tempered ladybird	time
27.6.11.	Caterpillars and Butterflies	The Very Hungry Caterpillar	time
4.7.11.		Non-fiction	capacity
11.7.11.	UGLY BUG BALL	We're going on a bug hunt	capacity
18.7.11.	Big and small	Tiddler	pattern

This plan will be flexibly delivered with children having a strong in-put in the direction of some of the activities we undertake. If possible please could you allow your child to bring into school books, toys, posters etc. which would support the weekly themes and provide them with a good opportunity to show items important to them and to talk about what they know.

Looking forward to a lively, hard-working term with opportunities to enjoy large-scale projects and the school grounds. Please contact any member of our staff if you are able to help in any way.

Best wishes,

Mrs. J. Bellotti