



Penguin and Swan Class

Summer Term- Plant it, Grow it, Eat it.

Brundall School- Be extraordinary.

Dear Parents,

The beginning of this term has seen us 'out and about' in our outdoor classroom and our local area exploring plant growth. We all enjoyed the visit to the Garden Centre where we had the opportunity to plant seeds, develop language of plant species and use money in a real context. We have used these skills back in school within our garden centre role play area.

In English we have read a variety of stories including The Enormous Turnip, The Tiny Seed and Eddie's Garden. The traditional tale of 'The Enormous Turnip', led to drama activities and a chance to understand the importance of teamwork. The children compared various versions of the story and were then able to create their own tale. The children were encouraged to use different sentence starts and form their letters correctly. Please continue to help at home by encouraging your child to practise correct letter and number formation.

In phonics, the Reception children are working on phase 4 which develops their ability to blend words. This is then used in reading and guided reading activities. The Year 1 children are consolidating their understanding of split digraphs and are encouraged to sound out and blend unknown words. Please continue to help at home with word boxes (for reception), tricky word bookmarks and high frequency words which are found in the back of the home/school diary. Reading good quality books to your child, and discussing their content is always beneficial.

In Maths, the children will be continuing to recognise, count and order numbers. For Reception this is numbers 1-20, particularly the tricky teen numbers. In Year 1 this is numbers 1-100. The Year 1 children need to know that 26 is 2 tens and 6 more. This term we will be focussing on the language of shape, space and measure. The children have been introduced to capacity and can recognise when something is full, empty and half full. The Year 1 children have been introduced to standard measures - litres and millilitres. Later in the term, our focus will be 2D and 3D shape. We will also be exploring their properties, e.g. I know it is a square because it has four sides the same length.

Creative Curriculum.

Our main focus is 'plant growth and minibeasts in the environment'. The children have chosen to improve the outside classroom by planting seeds, recycling materials to improve the appearance, including the addition of a water butt to recycle water. The children will have the opportunity to research minibeasts and look closely at their features. Cress has been planted and placed in various places to explore the best conditions for plant growth. The children have made predictions as to where it will grow best. When all our plants have grown, the children will be labelling the different parts and understanding the vocabulary associated with growth, e.g. germination, seedling etc.

The children will also have the opportunity to name and play a variety of un-tuned percussion instruments to compose sound pictures.

This term we will start preparations for Sports Day including 'infant sports hall' activities and team games including running, jumping and throwing activities.

We are looking forward to L'Attitude week where the children will have the opportunity to explore music, dance, drama, art and poetry. This will culminate with a performance on the Friday afternoon 22nd May. Details to follow, as parents will be invited.

We value the contribution that you make to your child's learning and any support that you give them at home to learn something new or extend their learning in school is invaluable. If your child learns a new skill or demonstrates new learning at home then please fill in one of the 'My Learning at Home' forms and return it to the class so we can add it to your child's learning story. Please feel free to ask for more forms as and when you need them.

Dates for your Diary

L'Attitude week 18th-22nd May

Parent Share Lesson for Swans Thursday June 4th

Parent Share Lesson for Penguins Wednesday June 10th

Phonics Check for year 1 Week beginning 15th June (Please make sure your child is in school)

Assembly to parents for Penguins Friday June 19th

Assembly to parents for Swans Friday 26th June

Sports Day Monday 6th July

Trip to Gressenhall Tuesday 7th July (letter to follow)

Thanks for all your support.

The Penguin and Swan Teams.