



Preston Candover CE Primary School

Preston Candover, Basingstoke, RG25 2EE

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Headteacher: Mrs. Simrit Otway

25th April 2022

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed the lovely weather. Last term the children really enjoyed finding out about the past through our castles and dinosaur related topics. They were also really interested in growing beans and thoroughly enjoyed watching the roots develop. We will build on this during the summer term and grow sunflowers.

Our Big Question for the first half of the term is: “How useful is colour in our world?”

We will be thinking about and appreciating the colourful world we live in. To help us answer our big enquiry question we will be exploring camouflage and how colours are used as warnings.

Our Big Question for the second half of the term is: “How do zoos help protect animals?”

During this topic we will be thinking about the purpose of zoos and in particular how they are used to help with the conservation of animals. We will also explore endangered animals and what this means.

Literacy

Our focussed activities will continue to be based on different texts each week. During the first half of term we will be using familiar stories with a colour theme such as “The mixed up chameleon” “Red Riding Hood” “Goldilocks” “The Gingerbread Man” and “Elmer” for our directed learning opportunities. We will be doing lots of story mapping and drama- acting out the stories so that we become really familiar with them. During the second half of the term the books we use will have an animal theme such as “Dear Zoo” “What do you do if your house is a zoo?” and “The very hungry Caterpillar” for our learning activities.

Maths

In maths we will continue to develop our understanding of the composition of numbers to 10 and numerical patterns by using practical apparatus such as numicon to see how we can make the

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same total in different ways. We will focus on subitising (being able to recognise quantities without counting) up to 5 and being able to automatically recall number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts.

Understanding the World

Our RE focus for the first half term will be exploring the concept of belonging and the church as God's house. We will think about all the different groups we belong to and also visit the church to look at the features that make it a church. After half term we will be thinking about looking forward as we talk about moving onto Year 1.

People, Culture and Communities and The Natural World

This term our topics lend themselves to lots of exploration of our school grounds and the features we have around us. We will look at good places for the mixed up Chameleon to hide in and use the Gingerbread Man as a focus for creating our own maps to show different routes around our school grounds.

After half term we will use books such as The Gruffalo and Rumble in the Jungle to explore different environments and how they are similar and different to our school environment.

We will explore similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things by using the Mixed Up Chameleon to explore animal camouflage. After half term we will use our animal theme to sort animals into different sets- such as reptiles, mammals and amphibians. The children have been really interested in the minibeasts they have been finding in our outdoor area and in particular have enjoyed digging for worms. We will expand on this interest this term by going on bug hunts around the school to see what other minibeasts we can discover.

Expressive Arts and Design

Creatively we will be use our exploration of the school grounds to collect different colour natural materials to create pictures with. We will explore the work of the artist Georges Seurat- in particular his pointillism pieces of art and create our own work in his style. We will also make observational drawings of our school grounds and the different flowers and minibeasts we discover there.

Physical development

We will continue to have 2 PE sessions a week for dance, gym and games and most of our PE sessions will take place outside this term (as we hope for the lovely weather to continue) . Please ensure that your child brings their PE kit into school on Monday morning – white t shirt and red shorts and a named pair of trainers.

Leader in Me

We have been focussing a lot on the habit of personal responsibility- being proactive and showing the leadership skill of responsibility. Within the class we all have leadership roles which are

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changed each week- such as choosing books from the library for our class book area and being the line up leaders. This term we will be particularly with Habit 2- beginning with the end in mind. We will link this to the story of the Little Red Hen and talk about what her plan was and how she was able to meet her goal.

Additional events

We have several additional events coming up this term- including Sports Week, a class trip to Marwell Zoo and a Wrens class celebration of learning which parents will be invited to. Communication about these events will be sent out in due course.

Phonics and Reading

This term our phonic programme move onto Phase 4 where the children will be reading longer CVCC (consonant, vowel, consonant, consonant) and CCVCC (consonant, consonant, vowel, consonant, consonant) words. Each week we will continue to put the words and sentences we will be learning in class on Google Classroom- any reinforcement you can do with the words at home as well as reading the Little Wandle book that is assigned to them at the end of each week would be very beneficial and will help support your child in their reading.

Some children have so far completed their story wings and received their badges before the Easter break. It would be lovely to be able to award more badges this term and so if your child hasn't yet completed story wings then please support them with it so that they can receive their badge for this year.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact us- (via the school admin email account) if you have any queries or concerns regarding your child.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Michelle Cooke and Mrs Sarah Defferding

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