

Crowns and Countries Foundation Newsletter Summer 2024

The year seems to have flown past so quickly it is hard to believe we have already reached the Summer term. This first half term our focus is on castles and crowns. We will be looking at castles and their key features and exploring fairy tales and similar stories. Following the half term we will be exploring our world, looking at our own country and then different countries, comparing environments and cultures and reading stories from different places.

In R.E. our topics are Good News, which is about Pentecost, Friends, which talks about the difficulties of friendship and finally Our World, which looks at the work of CAFOD and our role in helping look after the world. We will also have a focus week on Hinduism where children will have the opportunity to learn about another faith.

In design technology we will be creating bookmarks and in computing we will be exploring hardware and its uses alongside introducing using the computer suite. During the second half of term we will be having Health week with lots of fun activities culminating in Sports day!

In mathematics we will be undertaking lots of investigative activities using number. We will be looking at securing the children's knowledge of numbers 1-20 and above. We will be investigating halving, doubling and sharing. This will also include exploring a range of measures and looking at 3D shape and recognising patterns.

During the term we will be taking lots of opportunities to take our learning outside, here's hoping for nice weather! This will involve spending time in the allotment, growing sunflowers and building our very own bug hotel. We will also be having four weeks of forest school up at Sharpill woods, the children will have chance to climb trees, hunt for bugs and search for the famous Sharpill dragon!



Diary Dates

Thursday 23rd May- Foundation liturgy (parents welcome)

Monday 6th May- Bank Holiday

27th May- 31st May- Half Term.

Thursday 6th June, 13th June, 27th June and 4th July —Forest School

Monday 17th June—Health week

Friday 21st June- Sports Day

Friday 5th July—Foundation assembly (parents welcome)

Wednesday 24th July—finish for summer



How you can help:

This final term is when lots of the key skills your child has been developing will start to come together to enable them to become confident readers, writers and mathematicians.

Reading

- Practise the tricky words . These are on the back of the sound mat we sent home at the beginning of the year. It is important that your children know these for reading and writing.
- Ask children questions about the book they have read. Encourage them to make predictions about what they think will happen and give reasons for their ideas.
- Keep encouraging your children to sound out unfamiliar words.
- Practise all the phase 3 phonics sounds regularly so children become confident recognising them.

Writing

- Practising letter formation and recognition. Please ensure your child is holding their pencil correctly and is starting all letters from the top except the e and d.
- Practise writing simple sentences using words they can have a go at sounding out independently. They can use the sound mat we sent home at the beginning of the year to help them.
- Talking about stories and ideas for writing.

Maths

- Practise counting objects up to 20 and practise recognising and ordering numbers to 20.
- Look at simple addition and subtraction number sentences and encourage them to write their own.
- Talk about time, money, length and shapes in the context of the world around them

If you have any concerns about how you can support your child in particular areas please do not hesitate to contact us and we will talk about how we can support you.

Thank you for all your help throughout the year and we look forward to a fun and productive final term!



Transition to Year One



The transition to year one can be quite daunting for some children. We will put as much as possible in place to ensure a smooth transition and there are some things you can do to help support this.

Encourage your child to look after their own belongings and to take responsibility for things like remembering their water bottle or book bag.

Let your child come into the playground independently and leave them on the playground once they are in. As always in Foundation we are working to encourage your child's independence so walking to and from school, rather than being carried, is an important part of this

Encourage your child to undertake tasks at home independently and use their own initiative.

During the Summer holiday please ensure that you carry on reading with your child and also undertake a small amount of writing and maths work. Keeping a holiday diary is a great way to keep up writing skills.

