

# Inspiring Curriculum Newsletter

## Hornbeams

Summer 2026



Our Themes: Mini beasts, Growing, Animals around the world, The Seaside, Dinosaurs, under the sea and other interests.

### **Our Key Values:**

Caring

Commitment to Achieve

Co-operation

Independence

Respect

Happiness

Welcome back from our holiday.

We hope you are ready for a busy and fun Summer Term! The children have made incredible progress since starting school in September and we will spend the Summer Term embedding the skills they have developed in preparation for moving on to Key Stage One. The children love learning in a range of different ways, and we will endeavour to make all learning experiences exciting, stimulating and fun! Here we shall give you an overview of some of the topics we plan to cover this term, and as new ones arise this will be reflected in the weekly sheet in your child's homework book.

### **Personal Social and Emotional Development**

As always, we will continue to instil the children's independence. We believe that for the children to take charge of their own learning and development they need to be independent and confident. As the children reach the end of the Foundation Stage, we are going to be exploring how things in life can change and how we can deal with the emotions that come with change. The children will be acting as role models during visits from the pre-school children due to start with us in September. We will discuss how they felt when they began visiting school and what they can do to make the younger children feel happy and safe.

### **Physical development**

Our topic this term will be 'Athletics'. The children will learn fundamental athletic skills including sprinting, throwing and jumping skills as well as team events. Throughout the topic, we will be promoting good sportsmanship; we know that it is nice to win but it is the taking part that counts and we should encourage and support all players.

### **Communication and Language**

We are going to be focussing on following instructions with several ideas or actions this term. This will be through a range of adult led and play based experiences. We are also going to be using lots of 'how' and 'why' questions this term to allow the children to extend their ideas and use more complex vocabulary.

### **Literacy**

Throughout the term, we will plan opportunities to use reading and writing in a range of different ways, through both adult led and play opportunities linked to the changing topics each week. We are introducing the children to Drawing club which will encompass all these wonderful skills, with a particular focus on the love of vocabulary.

We have spent lots of time learning different graphemes in phonics and modelling how to write. We will continue to give the children many more experiences of independent writing to apply these skills. We are expecting children to begin structuring sentences and captions and they will be at different stages of using finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. We will explore many different types of writing, e.g. letters, lists, captions and non-fiction.

We will continue having our daily twenty-minute phonics lessons. The children will also learn new graphemes for reading and will apply these with their blending skills to read new words. We shall continue with our reading practice sessions, which the children are really enjoying. We shall be developing the children's comprehension skills by referring to parts in the text and answering questions about characters feelings and actions throughout. The children will also be fully immersed in the wonderful vocabulary.

The children have also really loved continuing to add words to our vocabulary wall in our classroom using words heard and spoken about during our daily Newsround sessions. The children have really taken ownership of this and look forward to hearing a new word which we can discuss and add!

## **Mathematics**

In Maths, we will be continuing to develop the children's calculation skills for addition and subtraction.

We will become more confident at doing this using a number line to jump back or forth. We will be working with counting in 1's but also 2's, looking carefully at our halves and doubles.

We shall also be ensuring that the other areas of Mathematics remain fresh in the children's minds for example, sharing, measuring, pattern, shape, time.

Children will be encouraged to apply their mathematical skills in a range of cross curricular ways. We shall be providing children with challenges and problems to solve where they will need to think of their own strategy to solve it and select any resources they may need to help them.

## **Understanding of the world**

We are looking forward to taking lots of our learning outside to investigate the variation of mini beasts which we have in our gardens at school and at home. We will pay particular attention to similarities and differences between them including the number of legs they have, colours and whether they can fly or not. We will use videos, the internet and books to research and then show our understanding in a range of ways e.g. creating information posters, booklets, models etc.

We will learn all about different life cycles and then be able to communicate this to others. We will teach the children what animals and creatures need to grow and what we can do to help wild animals.

## **Expressive arts and design.**

This term we will focus looking at the artist Wassily Kandinsky and his colour studies.

As always, we will also incorporate art and design into all our topics.

We continuously have materials and tools available to the children for them to make and create their own ideas. We encourage the children to use their imagination wherever possible as this brings learning to life.

We will continue to change our role play area on a regular basis and create places where children can use their imagination and act out their own ideas. We will begin with a School classroom role play area as this is something which many children have expressed an interest in lately. With many of the children becoming "mini teachers" within their play.

## **Important Information**

As per the school homework policy which is available at [www.nettleton.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.nettleton.lincs.sch.uk) homework will be set on Friday and returned on Thursday. The homework we set will be fun and creative for you to enjoy with your child at home. Please add a comment in your child's homework book to let me know how they got on with it. If there are any issues with the homework, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

PE day is on a Wednesday with Mr Kettlewell, swimming is on a Monday with Mrs Watson.

We would really appreciate contributions from home for your child's learning journey. We often use comments you have added in their homework book to add to this but please feel free to write things which aren't relevant to the homework e.g. if you have noticed them do or say something for the first time or reach a particular milestone. Anything which has made you think 'wow!'

We are looking forward to a great summer term. Please feel free to come and see us with any concerns or issues at all.

Mrs Watson