



AR/LL 19.02.18

Lions and Tigers

Foundation Newsletter - February 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

WOW! We are halfway through our Spring Term and that also means that your children have been at 'big school' for 6 months and they are also halfway through their first year at Bransgore. Haven't they all done so well! We are enormously proud of their development and the progress made by all of them.

After an exciting storytelling theme to our learning last half term, we are moving on to thinking about animals and life cycles in our 'All Creatures Great and Small' topic. Our exploration of different creatures will take us from the largest dinosaurs to the smallest minibeasts, and the deepest oceans to the warmest savannahs. In the week commencing the **19th March** we will be thinking about pets and animals that live with us at home. It would be lovely to share some of the children's own pets in school, if you are able to do this please speak to us and we will try and arrange a time for you to visit us and share your pet with the children. As with our previous topics we will continue to encourage the children's discovery of a range of different texts, this half term with books from Jonny Duddle, Giles Andre, Ian Whybrow and many more. **We would like to invite you in to share this learning on the 29th March at 2:30pm.**



Read Write Inc.

It is so rewarding to see that all the children are now bringing books home to share with you, this is due to their resilience and perseverance to develop their sound knowledge, we are all really proud of how well they are doing. Please continue to celebrate this with your children through the books they bring home on a

Friday and the online books available through BugClub. Support them to look carefully at the sounds and blend them to form the words, going back over the sentences to increase fluency in their reading.

This half term the children will be encouraged to increase the level of independent writing they are producing, as this will enable them to 'show off' their sound knowledge and the application of their phonics. I would ask that you encourage them to do this at home as well and prompt the children to bring any independent writing in to share with us at school. As always if you have any questions please ask.

Storytime

Thank you to all the parents that have regularly supported the children's love of literature through the fortnightly storytime. As we prepare your children for Year 1, this half term will be the last storytime sessions of the year.

Lions will be on the 28th February, 14th and 28th March at 2:45pm.

Tigers will be on the 21st February, 7th and 21st March at 2:45 pm.



Forest Schools

We have had a busy few weeks at our forest school site, exploring different media and artists. This half term we will be thinking about animals in the forest; who might live there, what they might eat and how we can help them. Forest schools forms part of our Early Years curriculum, it is a unique opportunity and provides children with important resilience and teamwork skills. The forest schools ethos is about the child leading in their learning and developing their self-esteem. All the adults that support your child in the experience ensure that your child will be able to engage fully with all the activities, often exploring new and interesting provocations.



January was a particularly cold month in the woods and some of the children struggled with this, therefore please make sure children have warm and waterproof clothing available on their respective days.

As a reminder –

Tiger's will be on Thursday 22nd February and the 8th & 22nd March.

Lion's will be on Thursday the 15th and 22nd March.

- Please note this is a change to the original schedule due to World Book Day, there will be **no** forest school on the 1st March,
- Thursday the 22nd will be a joint Lions and Tigers session.
- There are **no** session's week commencing Monday 26th March.

Thank you once again for your continued support in enabling us to offer this to the children.

Uniform

We like our children to wear school uniform because we feel that it helps them to identify with the school, look smart and to take pride in being a member of the school community. It is easier to identify ourselves as a group with shared values and reinforces our view that everyone is equally important. Please continue to ensure that your child's attire is appropriate for school, including hair accessories for girls. As a reminder P.E. Kit should consist of:

- Royal blue shadow stripe shorts
- White tee shirt with/without printed school logo
- Plimsolls indoors and trainers for outdoor PE
- Dark tracksuits for games in winter.

Ensure any items brought in are clearly labelled so that we may return them in the event of them being misplaced.

Thank you so much for your continued support, please continue to update us on your child's developments at home through Tapestry, following their adventures at school through our Twitter feed and blog posts.

It is a pleasure to be part of your child's schooling journey, if we can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, please always remember to just ask.

Aidan Richards
Foundation Phase Leader