



## Reception Newsletter - Summer 1 2017

Our topic this term is "Mini-beasts". We will be finding out lots of information about all different types of mini-beasts by using information books, simple encyclopedias and dictionaries. We will read stories that feature mini-beasts such as '*The Bad Tempered Ladybird*' and '*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*' by Eric Carle. We use these texts as the basis of much of our role play, discussion, reading and writing activities. Please continue to help your child by reading with them as regularly as you can and encourage them to read themselves.

In mathematics, we will be learning how to share amounts into equal groups and using this skill to help us to solve problems. We will continue to help the children to recognise numerals around them, with particular emphasis on the 'teen' numbers e.g. thirteen, and use them as labels for sets of objects. Please continue to support your child's learning by practising counting, as well as counting on and counting back. It would help if you played number games that involve moving counters along a number line or number track. In shape, space and measure, we will continue to name shapes and think about the words we use to describe them. Other work will include a focus on understanding weight and length (continuing to focus on appropriate vocabulary i.e. heavier, heaviest, longer, longest etc.)

In understanding the world, we will be exploring the local area in search of mini-beasts and encouraging the children to investigate for themselves using magnifiers and bug catchers. In class, we will be taking responsibility for some caterpillars and observing the changes they go through before releasing them later this term. We are also looking forward to a special visit by 'Zoolab'. They are coming to show the children their collection of mini-beasts and answer our questions about them. The children will even get the opportunity to hold some of the mini-beasts if they are brave enough! We will then be using a range of materials during expressive arts and design to make our own mini-beast models and paintings.

In physical development, the children will be exploring, through dance, different ways of travelling with confidence and skill. Using their knowledge of mini-beasts they will experiment with moving like different bugs. They will be encouraged to move in a range of different ways, whilst managing space successfully through changing direction and speed. The children will continue to work in our outdoor area where they have the opportunity to develop their skills whilst using a wide range of large and small scale construction and be challenged to build creatively using their imagination.

We would like to remind you that, as the weather gets warmer, the children will need to have plimsolls in their PE bag with their name on, as it is likely that some sessions will take place outside in the sunshine. If you have not done so already, please ensure that they are the correct size for your child, as your child's feet may have grown since they were first put in the bag! Also now that the warmer weather is here, please send your child with a sun hat. The only baseball hat allowed to be worn at school is the Pegasus baseball hat available on the website.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Bissex (Reception Year Group Leader)

Don't forget to check the website at: **[www.pegasusacademytrust.org](http://www.pegasusacademytrust.org)**