

Mandeville Primary School

Issue 1: 14th September 2011

Ladybird News

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the first ever newsletter just for Ladybirds! All of the children have settled into the unit very well and are getting used to the Reception routine. We're all having lots of fun exploring the different areas of the classroom and finding out what exciting toys and games there are to play with and learn from! Please keep an eye on the white board outside for all additional information.

First, here is some vital information for you:

- PE lessons are on Wednesday but please make sure your child has their PE kit in school everyday, including plimsolls or trainers. Please label all school clothing as items of clothing can get mixed up during the course of the day. Also please make sure long hair is tied back and only stud earrings are worn.
- Reading books will be given out shortly and should be taken home every day and will be changed regularly. Please listen to your child read for at least 10 minutes every day and write a note in the reading diary. You can help your child by talking about the pictures, sounding out words and blending sounds together and also discussing what happened in the story.
- Humpty word walls will be found in the back of your child's reading diary. These are high frequency and tricky words to be learned, firstly try to read them, then to spell when your child is ready. Please tick each word when they are able to read so we can ensure they are updated when needed.
- Good attendance is VITAL; **children should be ready to start school at 8.50am**. Please make sure your child goes to bed on time and has enough sleep so that they are alert and ready to learn in school! Your child will be welcomed into the classroom and quickly involved in their "busy finger" activity. The school gate is locked at 9am.
- Breakfast Club is open from 7.50am to 8.50am every day (£2.50 per day). A healthy breakfast makes a huge difference to your child's learning.
- Colder weather is imminent! PLEASE make sure your child has a named coat so that they can play and learn outside. If possible a pair of wellies would be useful too; there is a rack outside classroom to keep them safe and dry.
- Please help us by encouraging your children not to play on our outstanding outside provision before school as it has been set up for the day ahead.

This half term, we will be working on a topic called

"All about me!"

The Foundation Stage curriculum is organised into 6 areas of learning. These are just a few things we'll be learning this half term:

In communication, language and literacy development we will be

- Learning about the sounds letters make (phonics)
- Enjoying a variety of stories and rhymes
- Writing books that are all about me!
- Practising writing the letters in our names

In 'mathematical development' we will be

- Learning to count to twenty and beyond
- Matching numbers to quantity
- Learning to recognise names and properties of 2d and 3D shapes
- Starting to make graphs to show information

In personal, social and emotional development we will be

- Discussing ways to look after each other
- Learning to look after the classroom
- Talking about what makes a good friend

In creative development we will be

- Making puppets and musical instruments
- Exploring paint and collage
- Using recycled materials to make models
- Using our imagination in role play

In knowledge and understanding of the world we will be

- Talking about our families
- Discussing our likes, dislikes, similarities and differences
- Naming parts of the body
- Looking at life cycles and what babies need

In physical development we will be

- Developing our fine motor skills
- Learning to move in different ways
- Moving to a range of music
- Talking about staying safe and healthy

Please feel welcome to come and have a look in our classroom whenever you like! If you have any free time and can help in the class we'd love to see you. I am always happy to answer any questions and help in any way!