



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break. ☺ Hopefully the weather will be nice and bright this term. This term we plan on being out in our wonderful grounds much more. The children will continue to have discovery sessions in our nature area twice a week, with Jo Devine during PPA on Thursdays, and with myself and the rest of the YR team on Friday afternoons.

This newsletter provides some key messages for the term ahead, as well as giving an overview of the learning for the next six weeks.

#### Welcome to Rachael Bishop!

We would like to officially welcome Rachael Bishop to Team Puffin. Rachael is a very experienced teacher who will be covering my Deputy Headship time on Wednesdays. I will still be in school on Wednesdays, but Rachael will be teaching the class. I am sure that you will make her feel very welcome and she is very excited to get to know your children.

#### Weekly Overviews & Communication

We will continue to add weekly overviews onto Google Classroom, alongside any resources that might be of use at home.

If your child has to self-isolate, then use Google Classroom as before, to submit learning. You can attach learning to the Weekly Overviews that are uploaded each week.

If your child is not isolating, and is at school, then you can continue to add 'wow' moments at home onto your child's Tapestry account. Please also let us know how they are getting on with their reading each week at home by adding to your child's Tapestry account also.

For general questions or queries, please feel free to e-mail me, via the main school e-mail address: [info@somerdaleet.org.uk](mailto:info@somerdaleet.org.uk). This will then get forwarded onto me so that I can respond.

#### Bookbags

We will continue to collect books on Mondays and send new books home on Wednesdays. Please ensure your child has their bookbag on Mondays and Wednesdays.

#### Tapestry

We really value family contributions on your child's Tapestry learning journal. Your contributions really make a difference and help us to ensure your child reaches their full potential. Whenever your child shows a new bit of learning, then please do add an observation onto Tapestry. It takes less than two minutes to do, and it really does help us identify next steps for your child.

#### PE

Our PE lessons will take place outside this term (weather permitting).

PE Days are now on Wednesdays and children should come to school in their PE kit, including with suitable footwear. Please make sure shoulder length hair is tied back on PE days.

#### Suncare

As the weather changes, to protect your child please remember to apply all-day sun lotion to your child before they come to school, and bring in a sunhat on sunny, hot days.

# Learning focus this term:

## Enquiry Question

After a class discussion, Puffin class has decided that our enquiry question for this term will be:

**I wonder why things grow and how can we care for them?**

### Focus Book

Our first focus book of this term is Jack and the Jelly Bean Stalk. We will not be reading this book in one go, but instead, building up over a few weeks.

We will also be looking at our following Canon of Literature Texts:

Week 1: Stanley's Stick

Week 2: Jack & The Flum Flum Tree

Week 3 & 4: Go Outside (Poetry)

Week 5: How to find a Fruit Bat

Week 6: Yucky Worms

### Communication and Language

We will be exploring the rich vocabulary of our focus book this term, with the help of Grandma Fantastic. We will explore words such as colossal, gloomy, emerald, clamber, scramble, thundered, howled and many more.

We will express our ideas in full sentences, using correct tenses.

We will also work on our listening skills in small group and whole-class contexts.



### Phonics and Reading

This term we enter Phase 4 phonics. We will be learning to read and write sentences containing words with two consonant letters at the end. (e.g. tent, hand, think, yelp, coast). Near the end of Term 5 we will begin to teach some of our consonant clusters (bl-, cl-, fl-, gl- as in bleed, clash, flush, gloat).

We will be learning to spell the following tricky words: he, she, we, me, be, was, you, they, all and will be learning new tricky words to read. These will come home on a Phase 4 bookmark shortly.

Please add to Tapestry when they read at home – it really helps us identify your child's next steps, whether that be in supporting them further, or challenging them further in their reading.

### Learn Together

We will focus on Ethics & the Environment and will be growing lots of fruit and vegetables this term.

We will explore the value of Justice & Empathy and will look and explore some of the focus days listed below, including the rights of children which relate to :

World Earth Day

African World Heritage Day

International Day of Families

Eid-ul-Fitr

World Day of Cultural Diversity

### Maths

This term we will begin by looking building numbers beyond 10. We will be exploring practically how to make these numbers and will learn that larger numbers are composed of full 10s and part of the next 10. We will be counting forward and back from different starting points and saying what comes before or after numbers, placing numbers in sequences of order.

In the last three weeks of this term we will be using real objects to see that the quantity of a group can be changed by adding more or by taking items away. We will use the 'First, then and now' structure to tell mathematical stories in meaningful contexts. E.G. First Sam had 9 jelly beans. Then he ate 5 jelly beans. Now there are 4 jelly beans left. Children will also explore how shapes can be combined and separated to make new shapes.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We continue to show an understanding of our feelings, and those of others.

We will be setting and working towards goals, thinking about the Achievosaurus we need to be in order to be positive learners.

We will be learning about healthy food, and discussing how we can make healthy food choices, and who can help us with this.

We will also explore dental hygiene.

### Physical Development

We will be working on our fundamental movement skills and ball skills this term. We will be playing team games and building up our strength, balance and co-ordination.

We will continue to work on our letter formation, and on our numeral formation.

We will be looking at how to draw objects, showing care and accuracy in this.

### Writing

We will be spelling words which have the graphemes we have learnt, including digraphs such as ch, ai, ee and trigraphs such as igh, ear and air.

We will be writing simple phrases and sentences and will be learning to read these back.

We will learn to write our Phase 3 tricky words, and we will learn to write CCVC words such as tent, bend etc.

### Understanding the World

This term we will explore our environment, making observations and noticing similarities and differences in the natural world around us.

We will be thinking about how things grow and what they need to grow.

We will explore Eid-ul-Fitr and we will explore similarities and differences of other religious festivals that we have learnt about this year.

### Expressive Arts & Design

We will continue to learn notation and rhythm with our weekly Music lessons with Preludes.

We will be inventing, adapting and recounting narratives, playing with the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

We will explore different ways of representing objects, looking closely at the detail of what we can see.

As always, if you have any questions, worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and chat to us, or send an e-mail into the office where it will be forwarded on.

Sam O'Regan      Chloe Pitt & Sharon Fisher  
Class Teacher      Teaching Assistants

