

# Primrose Hill Primary School

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25th April 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

We wish you all a very warm welcome back to school. I know it will be another busy and exciting term for all our Ladybirds. We have lots of fabulous learning planned for this half term.

## Curriculum

We will be adapting the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum continually this half term and beyond to meet the needs of our children - whilst ensuring it remains broad and balanced. We want the children to be enthusiastic, curious learners who love coming to school.

**This half term we will be focusing on the story;**

**'The little Red Hen'**

**and lots of non fiction books about life cycles and growing.**

**We may also be lucky enough to see our very own chicks hatch in the classroom...please keep this quiet as we want it to be a surprise for the children.**

**In maths, we will be learning number bonds to 10, 3D shapes, Pattern, Building numbers beyond 10 / counting patterns beyond 10, spatial reasoning by matching, rotating and manipulating.**

**In phonics, we will be revisiting phase 2 and 3 sounds and all tricky and high frequency words. We will look at words with double letters and longer words longer with two or more digraphs. We will look at words that end with 'ing' and 's' (Our weeks focus, tricky words and high frequency words are sent home each week on Tapestry)**

**Other exciting festivals and celebrations happening this half term include Eid, The Coronation and Mental Health Awareness Week.**

**Phonics:** We will continue to teach phonics 4 times a week. On Friday, we will send a tapestry memo sharing with you which sounds the children have learnt that week.

**Reading with the teacher** Three days a week, your child reads a Little Wandle guided reading book with their teacher/TA. At the end of each week they will bring this book home to read with you. You will know which book it is as it will have 'Collins Big Cat Phonics for Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' in the top left corner. Please look at the instructions on the inside cover to help you support your child's reading at home.

**The book will then need to be returned on Thursday** so that the sets can be collected in. It is really important that you look after the book and return it each week (perhaps keep it at home till Thursday so it does not end up in the corridor library). Each book is part of a set that is needed for a group of readers. If you lose the book we will ask for a payment of

£6.50 so we can replace it. Until the book is returned (or paid for if lost) we will not be able to provide a new book.

**Reading for pleasure** Your child is also given the opportunity to take home books of their choice to read for pleasure. They can select new books every day from the corridor library, therefore please continue to bring book bags in on a daily basis.

As reading is a priority for all children, the school has also invested in **Reading Eggs** online reading programme - all children should have received a log in already, but you can ask Maria or Liam if you have mislaid this.

### **Buddy reading**

We join year 4 for buddy reading, this is a lovely opportunity for ladybirds to make friends with children further up the school and share books together.

### **Library visit**

We are very excited to continue our trips to **Primrose Hill Library on a Tuesday afternoon, setting off at 1.45 and returning for the end of the day.** It is a lovely opportunity for the children to have a story read to them by the library staff and explore the books in the library. Library registration forms have been sent out with the children if you are interested in joining. Half the class would visit once every 2 weeks. **For this to happen we will need 2 parent volunteers. If you can help with this please put your name down on the sign up sheet in the corridor.**

### **PE & Music**

Your child's PE & Music session will be every **MONDAY**. Because of the bank holidays falling on a Monday this day may change and we will let you know a new day via text. Children need to come into school dressed in their PE kits on this day. Please make sure their PE t-shirts and jumpers are named.

### **Stay and Play**

In Ladybirds, we will continue to offer our stay and play session **every Wednesday** morning 8:45 until 9:20 am. This will be on a two week cycle, please see the notice board. This is an opportunity to explore the classroom, play, and read a story with your child.

**Mystery Reader is every Friday.** Due to popular demand our mystery reader slots have all been taken up till the end of the year. If you are interested in doing this please speak to Liam or Maria and I am sure we can fit you in on another day.

### **Punctuality & Attendance**

It continues to be really important that children arrive and are collected promptly. Attendance is compulsory for all children, but we understand that some absences may occur. Regular contact and communication to our office about illness and medical appointments is crucial.

**START OF THE DAY** - All children will be welcomed through the main gate between **8:45 - 9:00 am** each morning. Please make your way down to the Reception corridor and a member of the Reception team will welcome your child into the learning environment each morning. The transition to Reception begins your child's journey to independence, so the staff will be encouraging your children to take ownership of small everyday tasks, for example, hanging their coat up and self-registering themselves each day. **After 9:00 am the gate will be closed** and any latecomers will need to come through the main school office.

**END OF THE DAY** - Exit Time from the Ladybirds classroom (please wait next to your allocated fence to the outside area) is at **3:30 pm**.

### The Office:

Please call the school office if you have any questions. If you do need to come *into* the office you must use the gate entrance from the street and not come in through the school. Office: [0207 772 8500](tel:02077728500) or email [admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk](mailto:admin@primrosehill.camden.sch.uk)

### Water and fruit

We provide fruit for the children and each child will need to bring their own **named bottle of water** each day. We will be able to refill them when needed and are encouraging drinking water every hour. If you would like to donate a couple of extra pieces of fruit a week to the classroom that would be gratefully received.

### Fruity Friday

The fruit shop has been a great success and we will be continuing with this every Friday. Please feel free to donate any spare fruit to support us with this. It has been great for their maths and social interactions playing shopkeepers and customers.

### Healthy Eating and Malleable Play

Cooking with children offers a wide variety of learning experiences, for example Numeracy, Communication and Language, Understanding the World and Physical Development can all be taught in one cooking session. To help support this, we ask for a **voluntary contribution of 50p a week (£7.50 a term)** where we will be able to buy the ingredients and resources needed. **This is payable through your SchoolMoney account. Under 'payments' you will find 'EYFS Class Donation Spring 2022' for £7.50.** We would be really **grateful if this could be paid by Friday 10th March**. We really appreciate your support, thank you!

### Dressing for school

We encourage you to dress your child in clothes that are practical for the classroom and ensure your child's **clothing is named**. As we are now in Spring, please make sure that your child comes to school dressed for the weather as we know how unpredictable it can be at this time of year. We encourage you to dress your child in clothes that are practical for an Early Years setting. For example, shoes with Velcro fastenings at school until they are able to tie their own shoe laces.



### Spare clothes

Every child needs to have a spare, named change of clothes to be left in school, hanging on your child's peg. Children may get wet or dirty from one of the exciting learning experiences we enjoy in EYFS! Where possible please use a soft fabric/plastic bag due to limited space on their peg.



### Toys at school

Please remind your child that we discourage them from bringing in their own toys to school. They can easily be lost or broken and this causes much upset, and at present it is not hygienic to bring in additional objects from home.

### Tapestry

This is an online journal to help record your child's time at school. We send pictures and videos to you at the end of every half term. We also use this as a way of communicating with you, for example we send through the phonic sounds we have learnt each week. You can also post us videos and photos of the exciting things your child does at home.

For further information, please make sure you regularly check the school website [www.primrosehill.sch.uk](http://www.primrosehill.sch.uk)

**As part of Camden's Safeguarding policy, please remember to refrain from using your mobile phone when on the school grounds. We really appreciate your support with this for the safety of the children.**

### Communication and Language

At the end of the story discuss the message. Should Red Hen have eaten all the bread? What else could she have done? What would you do?

Talk about flour and make some bread rolls together. Make and knead the dough, then shape it into rolls and bake them in the oven!

### Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Organise play dates in the park now the weather is getting warmer

Enjoy telling stories about your day over dinner or breakfast.

Share the best and worst parts of your day and why. It's good to talk!

### Expressive arts and Design

Make a Spring collage of the things you found on a trip to the park.

Look at the artist **Walter Mason** for inspiration

Make a model windmill using cardboard boxes. Talk about the colours and shapes used.

Use some recycled materials to make some percussion instruments to add sound to your show.

### Mathematics

Practice recalling number bonds to 5 and 10.

Help your grown-ups at the supermarket or at home. Compare quantities up to 10, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity

Practice counting up to and beyond 20. You can do this walking to school, up and down stairs.

Look for both 2d and 3d shapes in the environment.

***Here are the seven areas of learning and development in the Early Years Foundation Stage. In each of the boxes, you will find some useful ideas on home learning! Our Focus this half term is the story of 'The Little Red Hen'***

### Literacy

Practise the phonics sounds you have learnt, you could make this into a bingo or a snap game.

Draw or paint a picture of one of the animals in the story: the Little red Hen, a sleepy cat, a lazy dog or a noisy duck. You could add some speech bubbles for what the characters say in the story.

Can you play waiter/waitress game at home. Have a go at taking orders and writing these down on your special notepad.

Help to write out your weekly shopping list.

Make up your own story and tell a grown up for them to write it down.

### Understanding of the World

Look at the change of the seasons, can you see plants beginning to grow from the ground.

Look after your magic bean at home. Perhaps you can complete your bean diary.

Perhaps you can have a go at planting some seeds at home

Can you help at home with cooking and making a special meal for your family.

Talk about what are special celebrations in your family and what you do to celebrate.

### Physical Development

Enjoy the weather and go to the park! There are examples of games to play, skills to develop and activities to do here, if you need some inspiration <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/footy-pups>

Practise tying shoe laces.

Fine motor activities like playdough and LEGO building help strengthen muscles for writing

Practise running, jumping, dancing, hopping, skipping and climbing when you are walking to school or at the park