

## Summer 1

### 'All Creatures Great and Small'

This half term we will be learning about all creatures, great and small! The children already have a wealth of knowledge about animals from home experiences and the experiences that we have here at school. Such experiences include; going to the zoo/farm, bug hotels, bug hunts and watching the life cycle of butterflies and tadpoles. Learning opportunities this half term include; interacting with ducklings, releasing the butterflies, a Pet Shop role play area and child initiated exploring!

#### Hand Writing / Fine Motor Skills

As your child's fine motor skills develop, their hand writing and ability to form letters correctly will develop too! Please support your child at home to develop the small muscles in their hands and fingers so they can become effective writers. Here are ways that you can support your child!

Manipulating playdough, threading beads or pasta, using scissors to cut paper



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#### Home Learning

Children are to complete their phonics home learning sheet each week and stick it into their home learning book (its wonderful practise!). I would like the children to use their grapheme mat and tricky word chart to assist them with their word and sentence writing. If you have forgotten what this is, please ask.

Read 5 times per week and have their reading record signed by an adult.

Little Wandle book is sent home on a Thursday night, returned to school on Monday. It is important to re-read a text to enable your child to become fluent in their reading and to reinforce vocabulary, sentence structure and grammar. It is equally important for you to ask your child questions about the book they are reading. I will be sending home bookmarks containing questions you can ask your child.

Though your child has set days to change books, please ensure that their books are in their bag EVERYDAY. This is best practise (and excellent for their development of responsibility!).

Complete an activity from the home learning grid and 20 minutes of Numbots.

### Resilience

As we move forward into the summer term, it is important that the children are continuing to develop their resilience and self-regulation skills. Resilience is one of our Morden values and it is important that we work together to develop this.

Ways that you can support your child to develop their resilience is by playing board games, risk taking/climbing activities and challenging puzzles. This also includes engaging in activities that are new for your child. This poses a challenge and allows them to develop their confidence.

### Responsibility

In preparation for year 1, it is also important that we continue to support the children to develop their sense of responsibility.

In class, the children are asked to put their belongings away in their book bags, do up their own zips, change their own shoes etc. independently. It is vital that the children are encouraged to do these tasks by themselves at home too (this includes remembering their reading books, home learning books and water bottles on a school day!).

Please remember, if you have any additional questions in regard to ways that you can support your child's learning, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to the summer term!

Mrs Hume, Miss Smith and Mrs Laslau.