

Dear parents/carers,

This week...

We have had a lovely week continuing our learning all about growing and plants. The children have shown great interest and enthusiasm in our activities.

This week, the children have:

- Planted beans and talked about how they will grow into beanstalks
- Learned more about seeds and what they need to grow and stay healthy
- Explored and cut Spring leaves, developing their fine motor skills
- Taken part in sensory play by exploring frozen herbs using their senses
- Measured cut-out beanstalks, comparing their heights and beginning to use language such as tall and short

In maths, we have continued developing problem-solving and spatial skills through jigsaw puzzles and practical activities. The children explored the concept of height by comparing tall and short, using our beanstalks and even measuring themselves.

In phonics, we have continued focusing on recognising the same initial sounds in words (alliteration). We encourage you to keep practising this at home with your child to support their learning.

Next...

As we continue observing our real caterpillars growing and getting ready to form their cocoons, our new learning will focus on **the life cycle of a butterfly**. Our key story will be *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle.

The children will:

- Practise their fine motor skills through cutting fruit and spaghetti
- Enjoy sensory play with a caterpillar-themed sensory tray
- Express creativity through vegetable printing and playdough modelling
- Develop early writing skills by tracing their names and numbers
- Build confidence in storytelling by retelling *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

In maths, the children will:

- Take part in fruit-themed quantity matching activities to support early number skills
- Explore patterns through creative and practical activities

In phonics, we will continue to develop initial sound awareness, focusing on alliteration and recognising words that begin with the same sound.

Any other business

- Please ensure that any small round foods such as cherry tomatoes or grapes are cut in half lengthways to reduce the risk of choking.
- Please continue to provide your child with spare clothes in their bag.
- We would also greatly appreciate any contributions to our sensory play resources, such as herbs or other suitable materials.

Thank you for your continued support.

Marina and Belinda 😊