



Term: Summer Term II. 2016.

Class/Dosbarth: Nursery Teacher/Athrawes: Mrs Edwards

Dear/Annwyl Parents,

I would like to inform you of the work and activities planned for the Busy Bears Nursery children this half term. Our topic this half term is called "Teeny Tiny Things" and is all about mini beasts.

## Literacy

We will be looking at different books containing the above themes. These include various factual books about mini beasts, "The Hungry Caterpillar" and "The Lazy Ladybird". We will also be consolidating all the book vocabulary we have been learning eg, identifying the cover, pages, title, author, blurb and looking at the pictures and the text. We will also be spotting familiar letter sounds and key words within the text. Key words we have been learning are: the, and, I, in, to, went & like. This term we are learning to read character names : mum, dad, Biff, Chip, Kipper and Floppy. This is ready for reading books in reception. We will also be looking at characters in the story and thinking about emotions and how they are feeling. The children will be encouraged to talk about the text and volunteer information and make meaning of the pictures.



We will be talking about our own experiences in our circle time activities and will be encouraging the children to speak clearly, in completed sentences and then extending what they have to say. When we say our news we think about where we have been, who we went with and what we did.

The children will also be involved with Teaching Talking activities which encourage them to listen, respond and speak. We will be looking at how to hold a pencil properly in scribble time, how to trace, follow patterns, colour in topic pictures, attempt play writing and we will also be writing over, under and independently writing our names. Our class will also be using emergent writing to write for different purposes; writing lists of mini beasts we find, describing bugs and pretending to be tiny. The boys and girls will be looking at left to right orientation as well, as we write across the page. We will also be tracing letter sounds that we have been learning .

We will continue to introduce sounds, using the RWI system. The children have made excellent progress. The sounds we have been consolidating so far are: t,a,c,k,l,m,p,b,d, s, w, h , g, f,r, and i. We will continue to make simple CVC words using magnetic letters. We will be playing I spy and matching objects and pictures to letter sounds. Children who have joined us in January and April will use the POPAT sound system of listening and pointing to sound cards.

## Maths

This half term in Maths we will be covering the following subjects:

*Number* -we will be reciting to 20 reliably, counting on from different starting points up to 10, counting up to 3/5/10 mini beasts, legs, eyes, wings, leaves and food. We will also be encouraging the children to point carefully and they say their numbers. The boys and girls will be joining in and singing number songs and rhymes. We will also be attempting to recognise numerals to 5/10. We will continue to count forwards and backwards and add 1 more and 1 less to a number. We will be clapping numbers and repeating patterns.

We will play guessing games where the children have to estimate numbers up to 5, then 10 eg how many eggs on the leaf, how many ladybirds on the branch.

We will also be revising colours and shapes .

The children will begin to trace over and write numbers to 5, as their pencil skills improve.

The car wash outside for the bikes is so popular that we will be keeping it. The children can begin to understand the purpose of money through their use of this play facility.

We will also be doing plenty of work on repeating patterns. We will be making patterns with mini beasts and looking at natural patterns on insects. We will also be looking at symmetry on butterflies.

We will be starting some simple addition stories, with numbers up to 5/10 and this will be done practically using toys. Our "rising 3's" will do lots of counting to 5, reciting to 10, as well as sorting and matching.



## Other topic ideas:

In our topic this term we will be talking about different types of mini beast and small animals. We will be looking at where they live, what they look like and will be drawing them from close observation, painting ladybird pebbles,

printing caterpillars, making patterned pom pom caterpillars. We will also be watching worms in a wormery and filling our water tray with sphagetti worms to explore with our hands. The children will also be making a "bug hotel" in our garden with a range of natural materials, to encourage mini beasts to live in our garden. We will be setting up a bird feeding and drinking area. We will also continue to water our flowers, carrots and beans.

In ICT, we will be using the "Paint" app on the iPads to draw patterns and mini beasts and we will also be learning to understand how to *change the colour* and start a new page. We will also be using a computer mouse to practise the skill of click and drag for caterpillar counting games on Purple mash. In school, one of the web sites we use is called "top marks" interactive games for early years. Try it out at home!

Our water wall has been a great success so we will be improving it and making it even more fun.

### **Other Information:**

Thank you for your continued support in sending the home reading books back and forth. It has been great to see how much reading you are sharing with your child and how you understand the value of reading with your child. Our rising 3's will have book bags in September but please share books at every opportunity at home with your child, even at this young age, as it has been proven to have a positive effect in the long run.

The Little Teddy Wrap is still going well. The children love it and it has enhanced their learning. If anyone else is interested in signing up it costs £7 a day. You can send your child for as many days as you wish, some children only attend once a week but the really enjoy it. Please see me if you have any questions. We also run a bus service from Cefn Golau which many of our children use it. Please feel free to use this service by just just turning up at the pick up points and paying £1 each way on the day.

Helping your children to be independent when putting jumpers on, going to the toilet, washing hands and using our environment is an important part of what we do. Sharing, taking turns and being kind and caring to others are essential skills that we try and teach your child. Please help to reinforce this at home, as I'm sure you already are.

Outdoor learning is now in full swing so can I please remind you to put suncream on your child before they come to school and bring a sun hat if they have one.

Our snack is £1.50 a week. If you could send it in on a Monday in an envelope with your child's name on it, we would be grateful.

Please can I remind all parents to put their child's name in their coats and jumpers. It is difficult to trace them if they take the wrong ones home.

Miss Griffiths is with us again this half term. The children have really taken to her and she is enhancing their learning each week.

I hope you will find this information useful. It is the last term with us for some of our children, so we intend to make the most of it and have fun. We are really going to miss them. Thank you for your continued support and co-operation. Please don't hesitate to see me with any worries or concerns.

Mrs Edwards

Mr. M Gough



Class Teacher

Headteacher