

**Grasmere Primary School**  
**Half Term Parent Information**  
**Reception**  
Summer Term 1  
17/4/24



Dear Parents/Carers,

The Summer Term is always a lovely term at school; the days are longer and brighter, the children are settled and have grown so much since the beginning of the year. We are in awe of the fantastic progress Reception have made and how well they are starting to apply the skills we have taught them for themselves in their reading and writing.

### **Topic work**

Our topic this half term is **Animals**. We will begin by looking at animals that can be found in Britain and the habitats these animals live in. We will work on comparing them with animals that can be found in other habitats. We will look at the animals found in the story Handa's Surprise and compare and contrast this country and habitat with where we live. We will also look at our ecological responsibilities to the animals in the world and how some animals are becoming endangered and face the threat of extinction. With such an enthusiasm for animals in other subjects, we hope that this topic will inspire them. If anyone has a pet that they would like to bring in for a show and tell as part of this unit, please do get in touch. We would be able to welcome a pet show-and-tell at the end of the day on a Thursday.

### **Writing**

They have made impressive progress and are starting to produce some writing for themselves. We will be working on improving and developing the children's writing this term and encouraging them to share their work aloud. We will be looking for ways to extend their writing this term and suggesting some fun writing activities they might want to do.

### **Homework**

Homework will continue to be shared on a weekly basis. This will include a phonics reading book (spread across two weeks) and a homework sheet. Of the homework, the reading and spelling are expected to be completed. Otherwise, we are sharing ideas of activities that can be completed for enjoyment or challenge at home. Please complete homework within the exercise book provided and return on a Wednesday. **We would also ask that book bags to be in school every Friday to receive homework and phonic readers.**

### **Summer Weather**

The weather is slowly changing, and we will experience warmer weather over the next term. Due to this, our classroom and the playground can become very hot. We would ask that children be sent in with a **hat** to wear during breaktimes. This can be kept in a box in the classroom or their tray to try and limit loss. It is helpful on really sunny days to apply **sunscreen** before children come to school a provide small tube with their name on that can be kept in their trays to reapply on very sunny days. We continually encourage children to drink **water** throughout the day and children are aware of how to top up their water bottles. Children are also encouraged to wear suitable clothing and shoes during the hot weather. Children are very active and sometimes sandals rub and can cause them to trip when they are running. We won't

stop children wearing sandals but we are letting you know some of the issues that occur. However, please can you make sure children wear trainers on Friday for cricket lessons.

### **Hackney Music Festival**

In exciting news, Reception have been invited to take part in Hackney Music Festival's 28<sup>th</sup> June performance. This is a wonderful event, bringing together schools from across the borough to sing some joyous songs together. We will be working on learning these songs in class and will ensure that the music and lyrics are available via the school website the moment we have them. A permission slip inviting volunteers to help with this trip, on a first come, first serve basis will be sent out at the beginning of Summer 2. This letter will also confirm the timings for the performance as all parents and carers are invited to attend the performance as audience.

Kind Regards

Siobhan Maguire, Emmy Beber and the Reception Class Team