

April 2019



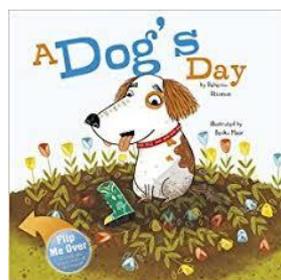
Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and we are pleased to welcome you and your children back to the summer term. If you haven't already been introduced, we would like to welcome Mrs Tina Luckham into Webburn. Tina is on the final placement of her PGCE course and will be taking on the majority of the teaching. We will be supporting her with all her planning and teaching. She has already had some brilliant ideas and we are sure it is going to be a great asset to our class.

Our topic this term is animals and their welfare as inspired by some of the older children who are taking action to protect the animals on the moors. This topic is going to be action packed - with the visit from the Dog's Trust, a school trip (more details to follow), our pet days, an RSPCA workshop, a vet's role play corner, farm, safari, zoo and under the sea play. These are just a few of the exciting things the children will be enjoying. It would be really helpful if you could send in a photo of one of your child's pets, a or a picture/ photo of an animal they would like as a pet if they don't own any. By Tuesday would be great!



We hope to link much of our literacy and numeracy to topic work- starting with a story called "A Dog's Day". Our maths work will continue to focus on securing all aspects of numbers to 20 with reception (counting on and back, one more and one less, adding and subtracting) and moving on to early multiplication and division with year 1. Please do continue to use Times Tables Rockstars at home. We will find time at school to practise and we will also use ICT to manipulate images and text. Our work in other subjects such as history, geography, art and design will all be delivered through topic work. Music will focus on exploring instruments and symbols followed by exploring timbre, tempo and dynamics in the second half of term. RE will be about belonging and then symbols.



We are so pleased that our outside area roof has been renewed! We have had a big clean and tidy up outside over the holidays and we are now involving the children in thinking about how we can keep it lovely out there and the types of activity they would like to play. If anybody would like to come and make sure our planted area stays looking lovely and fancies some light weeding once a month do let Anna know.

We are hoping to get outside lots for our learning, especially in Science where we will be learning about local plants and flowers. We will learn about what plants need to grow and hopefully growing some of our own. We will continue with Widecombe Woodlanders on a Wednesday morning so please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. It is shady in the woods so layers are important, and wellies for in the stream are also a must each week.

In PE we will be focusing on manipulation and games skills along with swimming and some athletics. Our allocated day to swim is Wednesday afternoon. It is all very much done at the children's own pace and what they feel comfortable with; we see confidence soaring within a matter of weeks. You do not need to provide arm bands or

woggles as we have them available, but if for example your child is used to wearing a float back pack, it is fine to send this in. Our swimming sessions are not very long so goggles do not need to be worn for safety reasons (unless your child has sensitivity to chlorine). If you have any queries regarding swimming please do chat to one of us. Sports day date is yet to be confirmed, keep an eye on the newsletter.

Our circle time is based on relationships and changes, and we will continue to practise calmness and mindfulness through two short yoga sessions each week.



Just a little reminder that children should bring a named water bottle into school and we encourage them to drink plenty throughout the day (especially now the weather will be getting warmer). We do advise applying sunscreen before the children come to school when the weather really picks up along with a sun hat. Remember to ensure all your child's clothing is clearly named especially with swimming, woodlanders, PE and warmer days. It really does save us lots of time at the end of the day.

Thank you to everyone who has been reading at home, it really does help the children with both building up their knowledge of sight words and also their confidence. Please do write in their reading record books as needed, as we do read them and feed back praise to the children for their efforts at home. Your child really does need to bring their book bag in every day complete with reading book and record book. This is helpful as we do have a number of reading volunteers who read with the children at least twice a week and change their books (in addition to their guided sessions with a teacher). Please feel free to change your child's books as and when. Ask a member of staff for help if you are unsure. As before we have attached some "I can" sheets for you and your child to complete whenever you like. The children love bringing them in and it's great to celebrate the things they have been achieving at home.



Library book exchange day will remain on Friday. Please ensure your child has their book to return every Friday.

Home learning - We will continue with weekly spellings for year 1. If you can practise them at home over the week this really does help with their Friday spelling quiz. Please remember to keep looking at the real and alien words and sounds if your child is in year 1, in preparation for their phonics screening assessment in June. It is useful for reception children to continue to regularly look at their letters and sounds for phase 2 and 3, and also to learn their tricky words for phase 2, 3 & 4. We have attached these for them. Also any opportunities to write at home, eg cards or shopping lists are great. If your child does any maths or writing freely in their own time, do send this in as well, any time! We would love to see it.

Please feel free to chat to any of us at any time if you have any questions or concerns. If your child comes to school on the bus do feel free to pop a note in their book bag, or call or e mail school.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Dawson, Mrs Perry, Mrs Luckham, Claire and Katherine.

