



MILTON-ON-STOUR CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Milton-on-Stour Gillingham Dorset SP8 5QD

Telephone: (01747) 822588

E-mail: office@milton.dorset.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Rhiannon Tidby

6th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Spring 1 Overview of Learning in Maize Class

I wanted to provide you with an overview for the next half term so that you know what your child will be learning about and experiencing in school as I know a number of you have asked which stories and books are coming up as your children love to talk about them and read them at home. I will be teaching the class mostly on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. On a Thursday and Friday morning, or when it is not me, it will be Mr Stanford. During the afternoons the children will be taught by Mrs Bristow, following up the learning from the morning. Within the classroom and our outside area we will be setting up play opportunities called 'continuous provision' that supports the learning we are doing across the curriculum, allows the children to practice skills that have been taught and develop their characteristics of effective learning.

Maths

We will introduce numbers seven to ten; counting sets, grouping and forming of numbers, this will include learning about the number zero.

We will learn about height using vocabulary taller and shorter, tallest and shortest. Helping to form numbers correctly at home and 1-1 counting will help your child in this area of learning, as well as grouping sets.

Phonics

We will carry out our daily phonics program using Song of Sounds stage 1 - Term 2

(you can look up the song for this on Youtube) We will carry out the short session twice in a day as the children learn the sounds alongside the song and actions. This term we will learn the remaining single sounds and begin the digraphs (two letters that make one sound) Just before Christmas we introduced words with more than three letters , those with consonant blends. We will continue to sound and blend our green words for reading and writing and add to our bank of red sight words.

...Rejoice with me, I have found my lost sheep. Luke 15:6





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Handwriting

We will continue to reinforce how to form each of the letters we have learnt – practice at home with this will help your child to develop the correct sequence of movement to form the letter correctly. During our continuous provision and adult led tasks we will be practising a range of skills to help us develop both our gross motor and fine motor skills.

Key Texts

This half term we will encounter a number of key texts including This is the House that Jack Built, The Three Little Pigs, The Gruffalo, Oliver's Vegetables and The Very Hungry Caterpillar. Our continuous provision and class activities will link with these texts. There will be a strong focus on oracy and language development. The children will encounter a number of stories every day to develop a love of literature. Reading to your child at home is still hugely beneficial in their development, alongside them sharing their developing reading skills and joining in with stories and rhymes that they already know. You may begin to notice that your child wants to help you read stories to them by identifying words they can read in the text and joining in with repetition and rhyme.

PSHE

In our PSHE sessions we will be learning about how amazing we all are and how we can do new things all the time, how to keep healthy whilst we are growing and about a balanced diet. We will also continue to discuss our feelings and the changes that happen to our faces and bodies when we experience certain feelings. These themes will link to our class texts.

RE

We will continue to use The Emmanuel Project for our RE teaching, in line with the rest of the school. Our half termly topic is called 'How can we help others when they need it?' This unit explores the early concept of Christian Salvation. During this unit we will also encounter a story from the religion of Sikhism.

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PE

Our PE days will be Thursday and Friday. On these days please send your child to school wearing their PE kit.

Wellies Wednesday

On Wednesdays we endeavour to spend the majority of our morning outside, learning in the beautiful grounds of our school. Please send wellies and warm waterproof clothing. On days it is very cold or particularly wet we will reduce the amount of time we spend outside and maybe warm ourselves by drinking hot chocolate.

Family Learning

We will be holding a family learning session again this term. I will let you know the date as soon as I have booked it and we hope that you or a family member can join with us for this session again this term.

Sharing special achievements

Your children are learning and developing quickly at this age and as part of their ongoing assessment we track their learning through observations. If there are any achievements or events that happen at home such as riding a bike, sleeping in own bed all night, family parties or celebrations, mastering zips and buttons to name but a few, then please let us know so that we can add this to your child's learning journal. We will share the journals with you through Parents Evenings and at the end of the year the journal comes home as it belongs to your child.

Class Visit

We have booked to take the children, alongside our year one pupils to the theatre in Bath in February. If you have not yet returned your slip for this then please do so as soon as possible. If you have any difficulty in paying for this event then please let me know.

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I realise that is probably a lot of information to take in. I will continue to put things on the school website so you are aware of our learning and ways to help your child. If you have any questions this term about Maize class please catch me when I am on the gate or speak to Mr Stanford or Mrs Bristow at the end of the school day or if more urgent send a message through the school office.

Summary of Things to Do

- Return your Christmas Homework sheet 'ee sounds'
- Find a picture of your house to send or email in during week 1 as we are focusing on our homes whilst we learn about This is the House that Jack Built.
- Try to attend family learning when the date is published – this is for approximately 30 minutes per term
- Send in a note or email if your child has had a special achievement at home – we add these to their Learning Journals
- Continue reading stories with your child as often as possible allowing them to join in with retelling
- Hear your child read when they bring home a book and help with practising letter and number formations
- Read the fortnightly school newsletter when it is sent out by email – look out for dates for Parents Evening as you will need to book a time slot – there will only be a Parents Evening for Maize class this term as other classes will get a written report.
- Check in to the school website – Maize Class Page to find out what we have been up to.

We are looking forward to what will be another exciting term in Maize Class

Your sincerely

Mrs R Tidby

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