



## Swans Newsletter – Term 3

### Welcome back Swans Class!

We hope you had a super festive break and spent lots of time eating chocolate and seeing loved ones.

This term our topic is **All around the World**. We will learn to identify pictures of places in our country and other countries from around the world, look at the difference between the city and countryside and explore the deserts and polar regions. Passports at the ready!!

We will also explore the differences between autumn and winter this term.

#### Literacy

We will continue to develop our comprehension and understanding of stories through Talk through Stories and Drawing Club.

We will also begin to write phrases and short sentences. We will have our daily RWI lesson where we continue to focus on blending sounds to make words.

Please continue to support your child's letter formation and blending at home as well as reading lots of stories. You could sound out words when talking to your child, e.g. go and get your c-oa-t. Please use the RWI QR codes in your child's red book to support their development.

#### Maths

Subitising continues to be a key part of our mathematical learning.

Did you know there are 2 types of subitising?

**Perceptual subitising** is being able to look at a small number of objects and instantly recognising how many there are – no counting!

**Conceptual subitising** builds on this and is being able to recognise a larger quantity of objects as the sum of smaller quantities.

A great question you can ask your child is 'What do you see?' Rather than how many... This gets them thinking about what they might see, pointing out quantities as well as other details.

#### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will continue to support the children to understand how they are feeling and take responsibility for themselves around the classroom. We will be looking at the value of teamwork, especially when tidying up in the classroom. In our specific PSHE lessons, we will be learning about special relationships we have with others around us.

You can support your child by continuing to encourage them to dress themselves, practise doing buttons and turning clothing the correct way around. You can also describe their emotions to them to support self-recognition of emotions.

#### Physical Development

Our PE lessons will be on a **Monday**. We are doing games this term lead by TeamTheme, our external sports company. Please make sure your child has a full PE kit in school, with no jewellery and hair tied back. Earrings must either be removed for PE days or tape supplied to cover them.

Any opportunities you are able to support your child to be active and take risks (e.g. climbing a tree) are all fantastic for their physical and emotional development.

#### Expressive Arts and Design

This term we will be having fun exploring repeating patterns inspired by world art, for example in stained glass windows across Europe, on Navajo blankets from North America and in African art. We will also be creating our own bunting and exploring how different types of music make us feel.

#### Understanding the World

As we trot around the world, we will be looking at landmarks, weather, animals that are native to different countries, Chinese/Lunar New Year celebrations, the diversity of celebrations around the world and events that we celebrate here in the UK. We will be exploring seasonal changes, freezing and melting as well as parables in our RE learning.



### Communication and Language

Communication and language development runs through everything we do. We support the children to develop their listening and attention skills, understanding and speaking skills. We talk about what happens in a story, retell stories, share things that the children have done outside of school and ask questions. We sprinkle new and exciting language over everything we do, particularly during child-initiated play (explore time).

You can support your child at home by doing similar. Use phrases such as, 'I can see you're pushing your button through the hole', 'I wonder what might happen when we mix the egg into the flour', 'I wonder why the mouse tells the fox he is having lunch with a Gruffalo', 'I wonder who you were kind to at school today'.

### Important...

- Please make sure your child has a **named water bottle** containing water in school every day.
- Please ensure your child has a **named coat** in school every day. It is helpful for them to know where to find their name in their clothing.
- Please ensure that all scarves, hats and gloves are also **named**.
- The children often take their shoes off in the outdoor area and put on wellies, therefore please can we ask that the children's shoes are easily identifiable to them either with their name or a sticker of some sort.
- Please ensure that long **hair is tied back** each day and that children **don't wear jewellery** for their own safety.
- Please share the expectation that **toys are to stay at home**. Your child is welcome to bring their Egerton bear into school.
- Snacks should be healthy – a sensible portion size of crackers, a piece of fruit or vegetable, a cereal bar, breadsticks. **No crisps, biscuits or cakes**.
- Children should not be bringing backpacks to school, unless discussed with Mrs Gilbert.
- If you have any questions, queries or problems, you are welcome to chat at the end of the school day once we have dismissed all children or make an appointment via the school office. You can also now drop us an email at [swans@egerton.kent.sch.uk](mailto:swans@egerton.kent.sch.uk)