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# Reception Newsletter

## Summer Term 2 2018

Welcome back, we hope you enjoyed the Holidays and are well rested and thank you to all the parents who brought in their child's homework! Just a reminder to please allow your child to complete the work as independently as possible and try not to correct their spelling errors, especially if they're using phonics, for example, 'butufligh' (butterfly) or 'bicoz' (because).

### **Staffing:**

Mrs Rahman (Assistant Headteacher – EYFS Lead)

**RM:** Ms Manzi (Class Teacher), Ms Carroll (Nursery Nurse)

**RB:** Ms Begum (Class Teacher) Ms Sue (Nursery Nurse)

Rahela (Teaching Assistant for both classes)

Maryam, Denise, Salma, Radia & Rukshana (Learning Support Assistant)

We would also like to welcome back Rukshana, who has returned back from her Maternity leave. She will be working as a Learning Support Assistant.

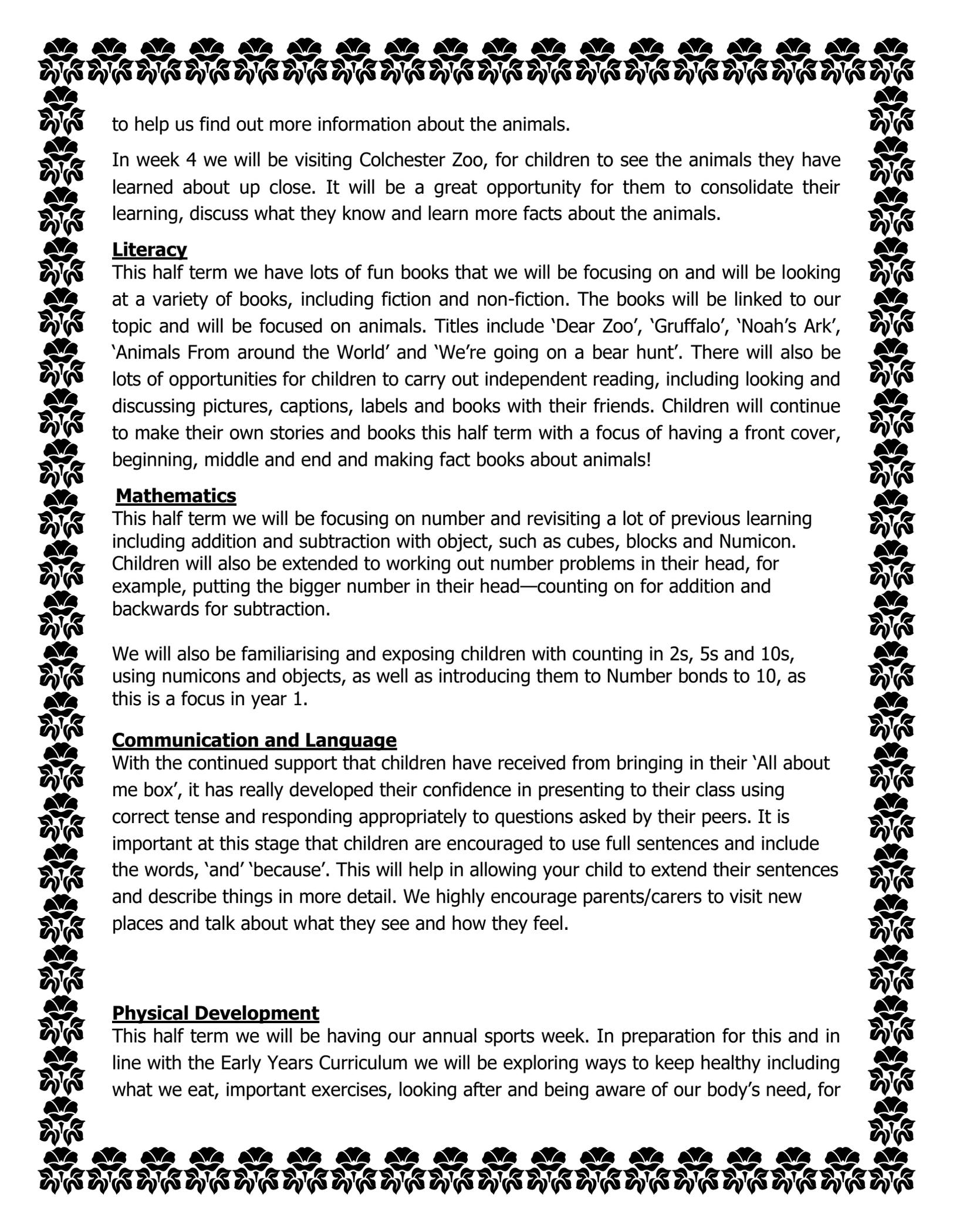
**School times:** School starts at 9.00am and finishes at 3.20pm for Reception pupils. It is important that these times are followed as this can affect your child's learning. Please collect your child from reception first, before collecting their older siblings, if any. If parents are running late, children will be sent to the school office.

**Collection list:** It is important that you have provided the school with up to date names of the adults you wish your child to be collected from school. Any adults not on the list will be refused collection. Children's safety is paramount to us at all times, we appreciate that there may be instances when you need to make alternative arrangements, so you should always inform the school office before the end of the school day.

**Spare Clothes:** Again, we have had a few incidents where children had accidents and unfortunately had no spare clothes. Please ensure that your child has a set of spare clothes. This can be left in their silk bags on their peg. This will allow us to attend to children quickly without the need to call family members to bring a change of clothes.

### **Summer 2 Topic: Animals**

This half term our topic is 'animals'. We will be looking different animals from around the world, finding out about their natural habitats, what they eat and other interesting facts such as similarities and differences. We will be using iPads and Non-fiction books

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to help us find out more information about the animals.

In week 4 we will be visiting Colchester Zoo, for children to see the animals they have learned about up close. It will be a great opportunity for them to consolidate their learning, discuss what they know and learn more facts about the animals.

### **Literacy**

This half term we have lots of fun books that we will be focusing on and will be looking at a variety of books, including fiction and non-fiction. The books will be linked to our topic and will be focused on animals. Titles include 'Dear Zoo', 'Gruffalo', 'Noah's Ark', 'Animals From around the World' and 'We're going on a bear hunt'. There will also be lots of opportunities for children to carry out independent reading, including looking and discussing pictures, captions, labels and books with their friends. Children will continue to make their own stories and books this half term with a focus of having a front cover, beginning, middle and end and making fact books about animals!

### **Mathematics**

This half term we will be focusing on number and revisiting a lot of previous learning including addition and subtraction with object, such as cubes, blocks and Numicon. Children will also be extended to working out number problems in their head, for example, putting the bigger number in their head—counting on for addition and backwards for subtraction.

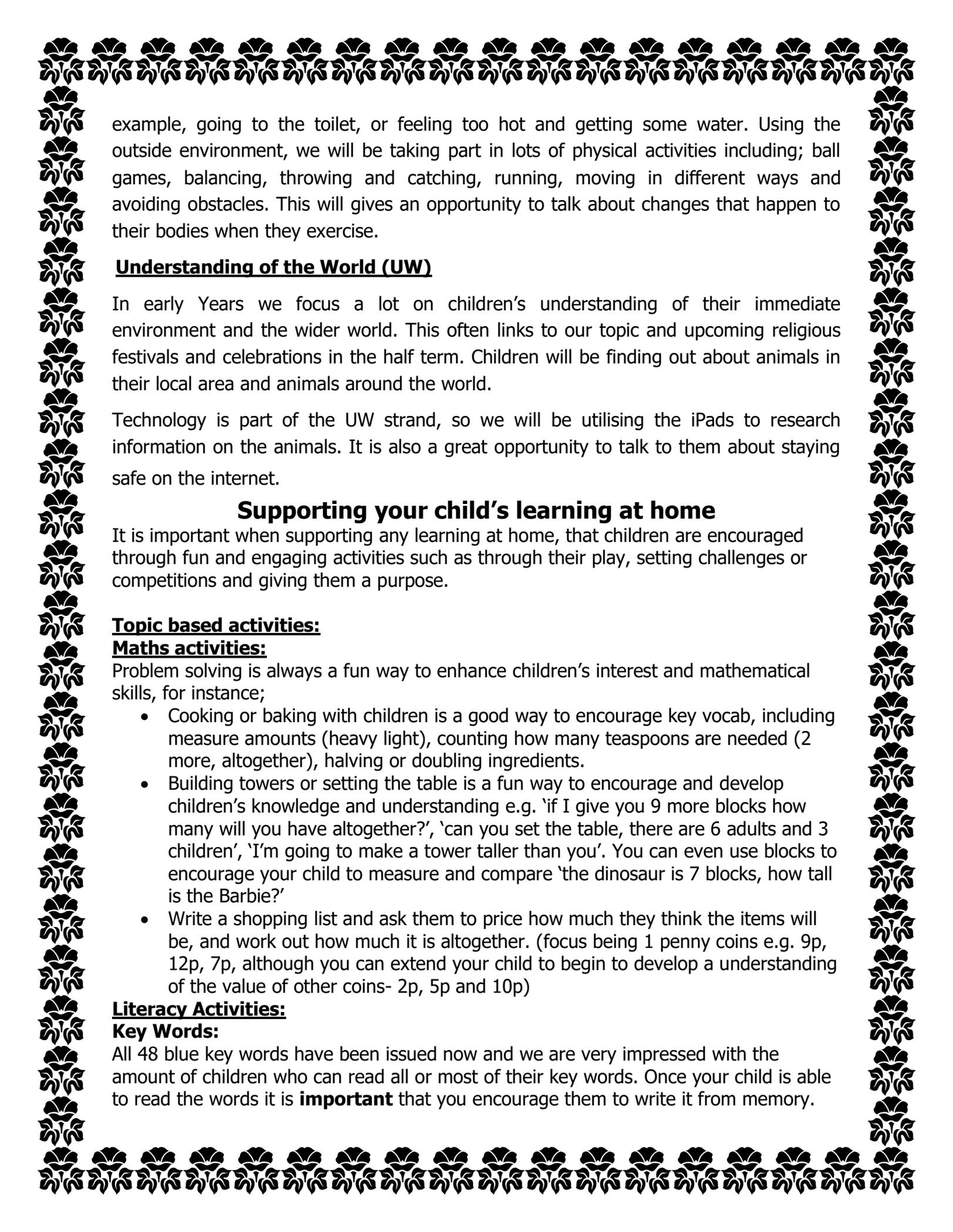
We will also be familiarising and exposing children with counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, using numicons and objects, as well as introducing them to Number bonds to 10, as this is a focus in year 1.

### **Communication and Language**

With the continued support that children have received from bringing in their 'All about me box', it has really developed their confidence in presenting to their class using correct tense and responding appropriately to questions asked by their peers. It is important at this stage that children are encouraged to use full sentences and include the words, 'and' 'because'. This will help in allowing your child to extend their sentences and describe things in more detail. We highly encourage parents/carers to visit new places and talk about what they see and how they feel.

### **Physical Development**

This half term we will be having our annual sports week. In preparation for this and in line with the Early Years Curriculum we will be exploring ways to keep healthy including what we eat, important exercises, looking after and being aware of our body's need, for

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example, going to the toilet, or feeling too hot and getting some water. Using the outside environment, we will be taking part in lots of physical activities including; ball games, balancing, throwing and catching, running, moving in different ways and avoiding obstacles. This will give an opportunity to talk about changes that happen to their bodies when they exercise.

### **Understanding of the World (UW)**

In early Years we focus a lot on children's understanding of their immediate environment and the wider world. This often links to our topic and upcoming religious festivals and celebrations in the half term. Children will be finding out about animals in their local area and animals around the world.

Technology is part of the UW strand, so we will be utilising the iPads to research information on the animals. It is also a great opportunity to talk to them about staying safe on the internet.

### **Supporting your child's learning at home**

It is important when supporting any learning at home, that children are encouraged through fun and engaging activities such as through their play, setting challenges or competitions and giving them a purpose.

#### **Topic based activities:**

##### **Maths activities:**

Problem solving is always a fun way to enhance children's interest and mathematical skills, for instance;

- Cooking or baking with children is a good way to encourage key vocab, including measure amounts (heavy light), counting how many teaspoons are needed (2 more, altogether), halving or doubling ingredients.
- Building towers or setting the table is a fun way to encourage and develop children's knowledge and understanding e.g. 'if I give you 9 more blocks how many will you have altogether?', 'can you set the table, there are 6 adults and 3 children', 'I'm going to make a tower taller than you'. You can even use blocks to encourage your child to measure and compare 'the dinosaur is 7 blocks, how tall is the Barbie?'
- Write a shopping list and ask them to price how much they think the items will be, and work out how much it is altogether. (focus being 1 penny coins e.g. 9p, 12p, 7p, although you can extend your child to begin to develop a understanding of the value of other coins- 2p, 5p and 10p)

#### **Literacy Activities:**

##### **Key Words:**

All 48 blue key words have been issued now and we are very impressed with the amount of children who can read all or most of their key words. Once your child is able to read the words it is **important** that you encourage them to write it from memory.

### **Reading:**

Our children have really enjoyed reading arrange of books based on our topics and interest. It is important that an interest in reading books is encouraged at home. This could include going to the library and letting your child pick books based on their interest or the topic they are learning about in school.

Another fun way to encourage reading is our new Bug Club programme, which is an online tool where children can read on their computers or iPads at home. All parents have been issued with a username and password and we have received great feedback from both parents and children. It has also been a good tool to keep track of what books children have been reading at home.

### **Writing:**

Please continue to encourage your child to practice their writing skills at home, this will support them to continue to develop their key words and phonics skills and put them into context. There are lots of fun writing activities you can do with your child at home, including:

- Writing birthday or Eid cards.
- Making a shopping list.
- Writing about their favourite character, book or TV show.
- Labelling objects around the house
- Making posters or signs

Please feel free to talk to any member of staff or further support or ideas.

### ***Dates for your diary:***

**Inset Day:** Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018 School Closed for pupils

**Eid Party:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018

**Father's Morning:** Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 9.10am to 10.15am

**RB Assembly:** Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018

**Colchester Zoo:** Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018

**Parent's Maths Drop in workshop:** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 9am to 10.30am

**Parents evening:** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**RM Assembly:** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Sports week:** Week 6 (week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> July) Reception and KS1 will go to Bobs Park

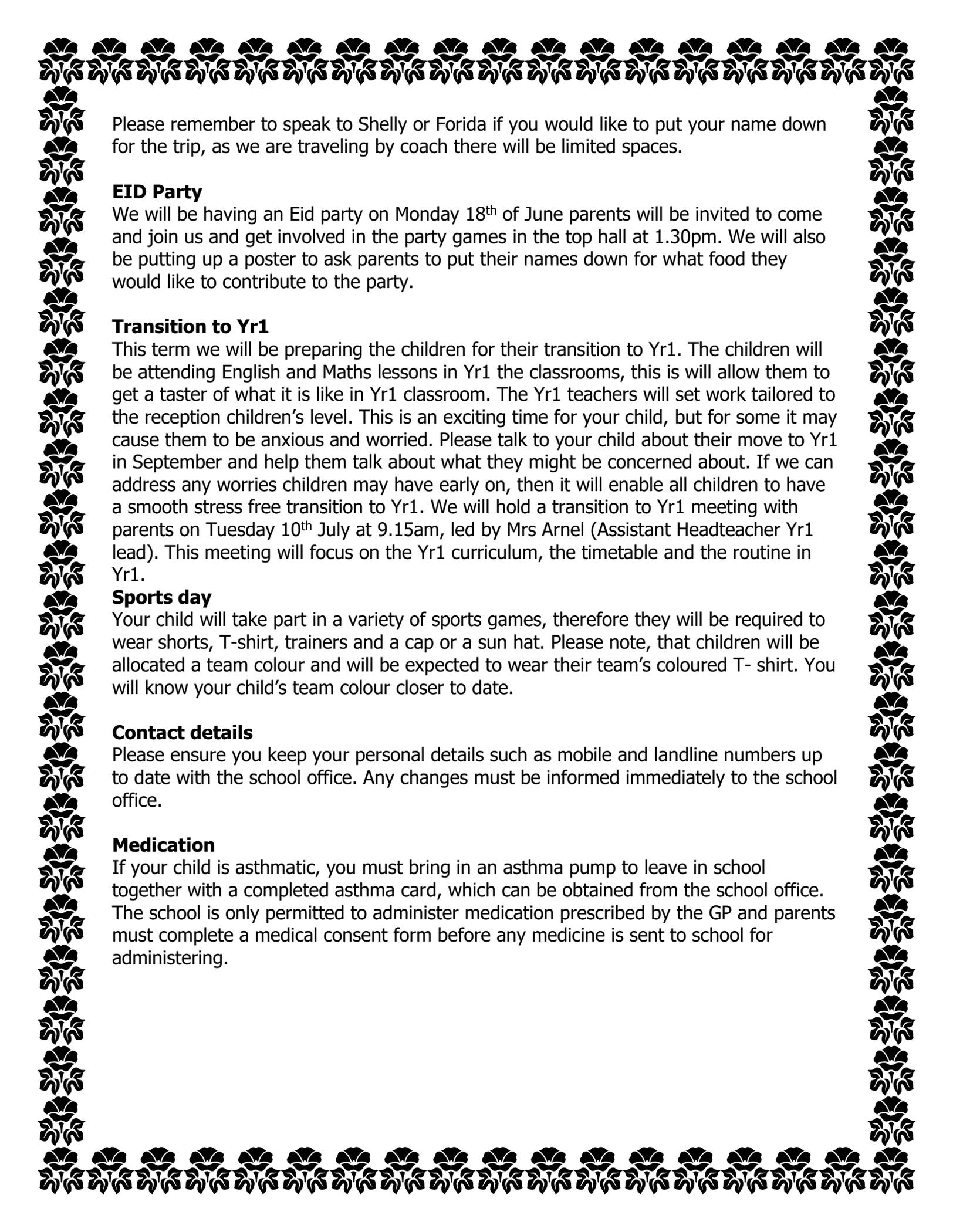
**Summer Fete:** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July

**End of term:** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm

### ***Notices:***

#### **Trip**

We will be going to Colchester Zoo to look at the animals, but are also hoping for good weather as there is lots of fun play areas. We ask every child to make £15 payment contribution towards the cost of the trip.

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Please remember to speak to Shelly or Florida if you would like to put your name down for the trip, as we are traveling by coach there will be limited spaces.

### **EID Party**

We will be having an Eid party on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> of June parents will be invited to come and join us and get involved in the party games in the top hall at 1.30pm. We will also be putting up a poster to ask parents to put their names down for what food they would like to contribute to the party.

### **Transition to Yr1**

This term we will be preparing the children for their transition to Yr1. The children will be attending English and Maths lessons in Yr1 the classrooms, this will allow them to get a taster of what it is like in Yr1 classroom. The Yr1 teachers will set work tailored to the reception children's level. This is an exciting time for your child, but for some it may cause them to be anxious and worried. Please talk to your child about their move to Yr1 in September and help them talk about what they might be concerned about. If we can address any worries children may have early on, then it will enable all children to have a smooth stress free transition to Yr1. We will hold a transition to Yr1 meeting with parents on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 9.15am, led by Mrs Arnel (Assistant Headteacher Yr1 lead). This meeting will focus on the Yr1 curriculum, the timetable and the routine in Yr1.

### **Sports day**

Your child will take part in a variety of sports games, therefore they will be required to wear shorts, T-shirt, trainers and a cap or a sun hat. Please note, that children will be allocated a team colour and will be expected to wear their team's coloured T- shirt. You will know your child's team colour closer to date.

### **Contact details**

Please ensure you keep your personal details such as mobile and landline numbers up to date with the school office. Any changes must be informed immediately to the school office.

### **Medication**

If your child is asthmatic, you must bring in an asthma pump to leave in school together with a completed asthma card, which can be obtained from the school office. The school is only permitted to administer medication prescribed by the GP and parents must complete a medical consent form before any medicine is sent to school for administering.