



## Ridge House



Topics and Subjects covered in Reception Autumn Term 1 2010

Dear Parents,

We are writing to inform you of the curriculum we have planned for this term. We hope that you find this informative. The children have an exciting and busy term ahead of them.

This term our topic is 'Mini beasts'. We will be focussing all of our learning and development around this topic.

### **Communication, Language and Literacy**

In Communication, Language and Literacy we will be reading a range of stories, such as, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Bad Tempered Ladybird, The Busy Spider and many more written by Eric Carle. We will also be sharing information books to develop children's understanding how information can be retrieved from books.

Through these stories we will be making posters with regards to friendships, sequencing stories using words and pictures and annotating pictures and making up our own mini beast stories and information books. Reading, writing, handwriting, language and phonics will be promoted through a wide range of activities.

### **Phonics**

A phonics lesson is planned on a daily basis. We use the Letters and Sounds programme as well as Jolly Phonics. We start with Phase 1 to develop our listening and speaking skills and move onto Phase 2 introducing groups of letters to support blending for reading and segmenting for spelling and writing. Information with regards to these programmes can be found via the internet: [www.nationalstrategies.standards.dcsf.gov.uk](http://www.nationalstrategies.standards.dcsf.gov.uk), or [www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk), [www.jollylearning.co.uk](http://www.jollylearning.co.uk)

Your child will benefit from practising writing their own name, reciting the days of the week, using their sound book to recognise letter sounds and practise letter formation and learning the tricky words.

### **Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy**

Through the topic of mini beasts children will participate in a range of activities to develop counting, comparing and ordering numbers, adding and subtracting, shape, space and reasoning and measuring.

Activities will support number recognition, ordering and counting and matching quantity to number. Children will develop their knowledge of 2D and 3D shape names and properties. We will be learning the days of the week and sequencing familiar events.

Your child will benefit from recognising numbers 1 to 20, being able to count forwards and backwards to 20 and counting objects.

### **Knowledge & Understanding of the World**

We will be going on mini beast hunts, exploring the fantastic grounds of Brockhurst and Marlston House Schools, while highlighting the importance of treating living things with respect. As the term progresses we will discuss the changes in the seasons. Using our five senses we will carry out a range of exciting experiment's to promote our learning and development.

### **Physical Development**

As well as participating in swimming and mini-gym on a Wednesday and games activities on either a Tuesday (Miss Dalby and Mrs Key) or a Friday (Mrs Simm) your child will also be developing their gross motor and fine motor skills in all areas of the indoor classroom and garden.

Through a range of fine motor control activities such as threading, painting, stamping your child will develop hand and eye coordination and pincer control promoting their pencil grip and control.

Gross motor skills such as running, skipping, hopping, climbing and jumping are all part and parcel of activities your child can access in our garden.

### **Creative Development**

Through the topic of mini beasts we will be drawing, painting, printing, collage making using a wide range of resources.

We have a creative workshop set up allowing your child access to a wide range of resources during child initiated time so that they can design, make and create using their own ideas and developing their skills.

Through our music lessons with Mr Rowley we will be learning songs, playing instruments and learning about rhythms. Children also have access to a music box so that they can create their own music and melodies.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Through Circle Time and other means we shall be talking about Our Golden Rules and our Listening rules. We will also be discussing ourselves what makes us happy, sad, our likes and dislikes.

### **French**

We shall be covering a range of topics this term: introductions, colours and numbers. There will be an emphasis on oral work, songs and games.

### **Reading**

Your child will be coming home with a reading book every day that we have shared with them during reading time. To support their reading encourage them to sound out words and use the pictures as clues. If they struggle with a word sound it out, repeat sounding it out faster until they can hear the

word. If it is a tricky word then you will have to tell them the word and they will learn to recognise it. Use the tricky words in the wallet to play matching games to promote recognition.

### **Home activities**

Each Monday your child will come home with the new letter sounds for the week in their sounds book. Please practise the letter formation encouraging good pencil grip and control. Your child can cut and stick pictures to match the letters or draw pictures. A new list of tricky words will be given each week to learn to recognise.

We look forward to a busy and enjoyable term.

For any further information regarding the Foundation stage please visit [www.nationalstrategiesstandards.dcsf.gov.uk/earlyyears](http://www.nationalstrategiesstandards.dcsf.gov.uk/earlyyears)

If you have any questions please feel free to ask a member of staff.

Mrs Caroline Simm, Miss Sarah Dalby, Mrs Lara Key