

## Our topic: Animals

### Entry Point: What can you find out?

**How you can help at home:** Check out books on animals from the local library. Help children to understand that there are many different types of animals. Watch some programmes about animals, search the internet for your child's favourite animals to find out more. Read animal stories to your child! Take some photographs of animals for your child to bring in and share with the class.

### Explaining the theme:

**How you can help at home:** Encourage your child to use their words to tell you about different animals. If you have a pet, involve your child in its care. As a family you could visit a farm, pet shop or take a trip to the zoo to explore new animals..

### Exit Point: Understanding about animals

**How you can help at home:** Talk to your child about which animals they have looked at in school and what they have found out. Encourage your child to draw pictures to show you, point out animals in books and give you some facts they have learned.

# Buxton School



## Reception



# parent Newsletter

Welcome back to school! We hope you had an enjoyable holiday. This Half Term our topic is 'Animals'. We will be reading a number of books and focusing on information books in particular, looking at animal growth and facts about specific animals. We have planned a visit from The Dogs Trust who will be bringing in a dog in and talking about dog care and the work the charity does. We will also be hatching chicks from eggs in Reception, giving the children the rare opportunity of experiencing new life and growth first-hand!

### Reminders:

1. The end of the year is just around the corner. If you have any questions or concerns over your child's learning please speak to your child's class teacher. We are beginning our transition for Year One and are more than happy to talk to you about what this looks like.
2. Thank you to all the parents who join us regularly for reading mornings. This session runs every Friday from 9.00-9.30am. We would love for you to come and spend some time with us in the Reception! If you want to join, simply drop your child off at the regular time of 8.55am and wait outside whilst we do the register.

### Dates for the Term:

- Summer 1 Term: Wednesday 19th April - Fri day 26th May
- May Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May
- Class Photographs: Wednesday 3rd May
- Half term holiday: Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June
- Summer 2 begins: Monday 5th June
- Last day of Term: Wednesday 19th July (12.30 finish)

### PRIME AREA

#### Communication and Language

- Watching eggs hatch, and learning about other animals will give us plenty to talk about.
- Extending our vocabulary through information books, learning and using new words.

### PRIME AREA

#### Physical Development

- Balancing on gym equipment
- Catching and throwing balls
- Exploring different ways of moving eg. slithering like a snake, hopping like a rabbit

### PRIME AREA

#### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- The children are adjusting to a more formal timetable of lessons, helping them to get ready for Year One.
- We will be talking about the move to Year One, discussing feelings and change.

### SPECIFIC AREA

#### Literacy

- We have Phonic lessons each day. Most children have already completed Phase 1 and Phase 2 and are now beginning on Phase 3.
- Writing sentences is our big focus for the rest of the year. We encourage children to think of something, say it out loud and then write it down.

# Animals

### SPECIFIC AREA

#### Mathematics

- We will consolidate our understanding of 3D shapes and begin learning about capacity.
- Measurements of various sorts like length, weight and capacity
- We will also gain experience of using money in our role play.

### SPECIFIC AREA

#### Expressive Arts and Design

- The children will be given opportunities to use different methods to broaden their creative skills, through painting and drawing
- Through our topic we will explore pattern and texture.

### SPECIFIC AREA

#### Understanding the World:

- We will be exploring different climates/countries as we learn about the origins of different animals.
- With the hatching of eggs children will observe changes in the natural world.