



## Reception Newsletter

April – May 2026



### Chicks and 'into the garden'

Welcome back to Reception! We will be starting this half-term by exploring the life-cycle of chicks and hatching some eggs in the incubator! In the first week, we will be learning about the traditional tale of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and the structure of a traditional tale. The children will then conduct an experiment to find what seeds need to grow before planting their sunflower seeds. We will also be looking at Minibeasts and their characteristics! For the final week, hopefully our little chicks have hatched from the eggs, and we will be doing loads of activities about them! We have a very exciting half-term planned!

#### This half term, we are learning:

- To begin exploring teen numbers.
- To deepen our understanding of 2D and 3D shapes.
- The structure of a traditional tale.
- What a nurse does and how they can help us.
- What plants and root vegetables need to grow.
- The life cycle of a frog and compare this to the life cycle of a hen that was previously learnt.
- The difference between healthy and unhealthy foods and the effects that these can have on our bodies.
- To be able to write instructively using language such as first, then, and after.
- Who Claude Monet is and all about his beautiful garden.

#### The children will:

- Practise speaking to unfamiliar adults to promote oracy.
- Be able to talk about pictures of familiar situations which are in the past.
- Go on a minibeast hunt and then classify the insects they have found by looking closely at their features.
- Conduct a comparative test by testing out what plants need to grow.
- Plant their own sunflower seeds and give them the correct things to help them grow.
- Write about life-cycles and new life!

#### How to help your child at home:

- Practise reading all set 1/2 letter sounds and using the letter rhyme to help your child write their letters correctly.
- Encourage your child to zip their coat up independently.
- Listen to them read at home as much as possible.
- Practise reading and writing the red words learnt in phonics.
- Encourage your child to practise ordering and recognising numbers to 15.
- Encourage your child to write simple sentences using their Fred fingers to sound out the words.
- Talk to your child about the environment they live in and how it is different from other places in the world.
- Encourage your child to practise writing their first and last name.

#### Things to remember:

Children in Reception will have a weekly outdoor learning session. Please bring in a pair of wellies with their name on them. We do have a few spares if needed. We have a set of waterproof suits for each child to wear if it is wet, but a waterproof coat in school is useful too.

The children will need their wellies on **Thursdays**.

**Wednesdays** will continue to be PE days for Reception.

**Thank you for all your support!**

For more details, please see our website.

[www.claggateprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.claggateprimaryschool.co.uk)