



Summer 1 2019 1st Half Term – Acorn

Welcome back after what we hope was a relaxing and enjoyable Easter holidays! It's hard to believe we have just two half terms left!

Last term, we learnt about 'People who help us.' We learnt about firefighters, police officers, dentists and our local community. We are grateful to our parents who came in to talk about their careers. These were very valuable experiences which the children thoroughly enjoyed. We also went to the farm to consolidate our learning about animals.

This term, we are learning about 'Minibeasts.' We are sure the children will enjoy bug hunting and getting very messy! Through a range of stories and non-fiction texts, the children will broaden their knowledge on a variety of bugs and insects.

Thank you to all of our Nursery parents who have chosen to stay at Hilltop next year. We will be sending out an invite to our Reception Parent Information Evening in the coming weeks. We will begin to talk to all of the children about their transition into *big school* after half term.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We will continue to encourage the children to be kind to each other, using carpet time to talk about what that actually means. We will also continue to encourage the children to be more independent across all areas.

Communication & Language

We will continue and extend storytelling opportunities. Children will have 'focus stories' each week and emphasis will be put on them being able to discuss the stories, predict what might happen next and retell the story or make up their own version using the pictures.

Physical Development

We're going to do a big push on physical activity this term: improving our coordination and agility and building strong muscles.

For fine-motor skills, we will be focussing on mark-making and forming letters and numbers correctly, using the correct tripod grip.

Literacy

The minibeast topic books we have planned to read will naturally lead to us talking about facts on caterpillars, butterflies and other insects.

We will continue to practise recognising and writing our own names too.

Maths

We'll use this half term to concentrate on recognising and writing numbers to 10 and beyond where children are ready.

We will also introduce estimating, using terms like 'less' and 'fewer'.

Understanding the World

We will spend time noticing patterns and making observations outdoors as we go '*bug hunting*' with our magnifying glasses. We will discuss how we can care for our natural environment.

Expressive Arts

The children have thoroughly enjoyed junk modelling! Thank you for keeping us stocked up with resources! This term, we will be focusing on naming colours and exploring primary and secondary colours.

Reminders for this half term

- ★ As the weather is warming up, please ensure you apply sun cream on your child before the school day starts. It is not necessary to bring sun cream in.
- ★ All children are required to have a Hilltop sun hat which can be bought from the uniform shop.
- ★ **Family Grounds Day:** Sunday 12th May
- ★ **Inset Day:** Monday 3rd June
- ★ **Acorn class assembly:** Thursday 4th July