

Birkrigg - Spring 2

Welcome back to a new half term. Our topic this half term is Eggs. The children are going to find a large egg in the classroom to look after. Hopefully it might hatch!

Literacy

We continue to teach Phonics daily and the children also have 3 short reading practice sessions weekly. We will continue to change home reading books twice a week on a Monday and a Thursday. The reading book they bring home on Thursday is the book they have been reading as part of a group in school as rereading a text builds confidence and fluency. Please comment in your child's reading journal if you have heard your child read. The children can also borrow a book from the school library. They will choose one on a Tuesday and can keep it for the week.

Like last half term, we will read a combination of story books and information books over the coming weeks. Our story books include 'The Odd Egg', 'Dinosaur Chase' and 'Rosie's Walk'. We will make predictions about a text, write descriptions, and write facts about dinosaurs.

Maths

We start the half term by finishing some work on length, height and time (days of the week) before continuing our number work including all numbers to 10, the composition of the numbers, ordering numbers to 10 and looking at the number bonds to make 10. We will continue our work on doubling, and odd and even numbers. Towards the end of term we will be exploring 3-D shapes.

Understanding the World

In our Science work we are going to start by sorting animals that hatch from eggs and animals that do not hatch from eggs. We will move on to some work about dinosaurs including learning about carnivores and herbivores. We will think about how the world looked during dinosaur times, exploring what is similar and what is different to nowadays.

We will also think about Spring and the changes we might see in our local environment during this season. Towards Easter, we are going to learn more about life cycles, in particular the life cycle of a chicken. During March we will celebrate Science Week.

Although they occurred or started during half term, we will talk about Shrove Tuesday and the Chinese New Year celebrations.

RE

We will be thinking about Easter and exploring the events of Palm Sunday, the Last Supper and Good Friday. Children will talk about different feelings that were experienced during the different parts of the Easter story.

PSE

We are still discussing people who help us in our local community. So far, we have talked about dentists, school staff, vets and firefighters, and we are also going to take a look at doctors and police officers. In addition, we are going to think about how we need to look after our egg, about why we eat eggs and what is our favourite way to eat eggs. We will start to talk about how we need to look after our world. As usual we will continue to work cooperatively, take turns and follow instructions.

Music

Our unit is called Our World. We will also continue to sing well known nursery rhymes and songs related to the topic. We will also keep a steady beat and explore dynamics in music.

Expressive Arts and Design

Linked to our Eggs topic, we are going to make our own large 'odd' eggs using papier-mache. We will also use salt dough again when we think about dinosaurs and fossils later in the half term. We will try some observational drawings of fossils and spring flowers. We will end the half term with a variety of Easter crafts. There are always opportunities within continuous provision for children to paint, explore junk modelling, colour and work on collages or cutting and sticking activities.

Computing

The children will continue to explore Bee-Bots, giving them simple instructions to move in a certain direction and for a given distance. There is a new topic on Mini Mash about dinosaurs, and the children will be given chance to create a moving dinosaur scene, complete a picture of a dinosaur and create their own dinosaur on the screen.

PE

We continue to have two hall times for PE on Monday and Thursday. This half term we will complete another dance unit as well as a fundamental skills unit. The children still have their PE kit in school on their peg.

As last half term, weather permitting, we will use the bikes and scooters on the school playground and visit the field where possible.

If you have any further questions, please ask.

Miss Turner and Mrs Edmondson