



## Dragonflies Curriculum Newsletter

### Light, Dark and Celebrations

Autumn 2021

#### Mathematics

The children will continue to work on their counting and recognition of numerals. They will be provided with lots of practical opportunities to learn to count objects and make sets when counting. The children will be introduced to a variety of ways to represent each number as they develop their understanding of the number system. They will also learn how to solve simple number problems.



#### Literacy

The children will continue to experiment with different ways of mark making using a variety of media and will be encouraged to give meaning to the marks that they make. They will be taught how to form letter shapes and to recognise and write their name. Phonics will continue to be taught using the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds programme and during the daily phonics sessions, the children will learn letter sounds (phonemes) and how to blend these sounds together for reading and writing. The children will be bringing home phonics activities to practice with you at home to help with this. They will also bring home a reading diary and reading books to share and practice with you at home.



**Library books—Changed every Friday**  
**Phonics books—Changed once a week**  
**Please make sure you child's reading books and diaries are in school every day.**



#### Tapestry

Please make sure you have activated your account to be able to view observations of your child. There will be one focused observation by a member of staff each half term, as well wow moments. Please add achievements from home too, such as swimming badges or sporting awards.

#### Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We will continue to introduce the Anker Valley school values. We will be learning how to keep ourselves and those around us safe and how to be a kind friend. We will be using our feelings station in the classroom and the calm down area to develop our understanding of the different emotions we feel and what we can do to manage our feelings.



#### Communication & Language

We will be sharing a wide range of stories linked to our theme and encouraging the children to engage in discussions about them. The children will learn to take turns when speaking and listening and will continue to develop their speaking and listening skills through the use of small world and role play in the classroom. The children will take part in a weekly circle time where they will have the option to share something with their peers.

#### Expressive Arts & Design

The children will create pictures and models of fireworks, poppies and nocturnal animals. They will also be learning songs for our Christingle Assembly and Nativity performance. Some of the children will also have lines to learn for parts in the Nativity too.



#### Understanding the World

The children will be finding out about the Hindu celebration Diwali. They will learn about Bonfire Night and how to stay safe using the Firework Code. They will learn about the Christmas story and how Christmas is celebrated around the world.



Our **Forest School Sessions** will take place every **Friday**. Your child will need a pair of wellies and a puddle suit to keep in school labelled with their name.



#### Key Dates for Dragonflies

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November** - Parents evening

**8<sup>th</sup> November**—Flu Immunisations

**12<sup>th</sup> November**—Children in Need Day—Children to wear something spotty.

**15<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup> November**—National Anti-Bullying Week

**3<sup>rd</sup> December**—9:15am—Christingle Family Assembly

**16<sup>th</sup> December**—9:15am—Reception Nativity and Carols

**10<sup>th</sup> December**—3:30pm—5:00pm—Christmas Fayre

**17<sup>th</sup> December**—Christmas Jumper Day

**20<sup>th</sup> December**—**Christmas Holidays Start**

**4<sup>th</sup> January**—**Inset Day (School closed to pupils)**

**5<sup>th</sup> January**—Spring term Starts

**21<sup>st</sup> February–25<sup>th</sup> February**—**Half term**



#### Physical Development

P.E lessons will be on a **Wednesday** with Mrs Horlor and **Thursday** with Mrs Free. Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school; labelled with their name to help when changing.

The children will have access to physical activities each day both inside and outside the classroom. We will also be focusing on developing the children's fine motor skills. They will learn to use and hold a range of equipment correctly during mark making/writing and creative challenges.



#### Staffing in Dragonflies

Mrs A Free —Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

Mrs N Horlor —Monday afternoon and all day on a Wednesday

Miss S Garrett— Monday—Friday

Sam Lewis— Based at Anker Valley every Wednesday.

#### How you can support your child at home

Please listen to your child read at least three times each week and record in their reading diaries. Please also practice their phonic sounds and word cards daily if possible.

