

Dear Ladybirds and Bumblebees,

When Baby Bear from our story 'Whatever Next' goes to space he has a picnic with an owl. What would you pack for a picnic in space? We would love for you to draw us a picture of your space picnic! Can you have a go at writing the initial sounds for some of the items you draw too?

Love Buzz and Lottie



Week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a lovely, sunny start we had to the week! The children thoroughly enjoyed spending a lot of time outside, making the most of the warmth and sunshine, especially during our reading event on Tuesday.

A huge thank you to those of you who were able to attend the reading event. We hope you enjoyed the session as much as we did and got an idea of the ways that we explore books beyond simply reading them, such as looking closely at the pictures, discussing the parts of the story the children like or dislike, and exploring new vocabulary.

In Literacy this week, the children have continued enjoying our class story, *Whatever Next*. We have been having fun innovating the text, thinking of creative changes like turning Baby Bear's rocket into a flying bus or setting off to Mars instead of the moon. We are continuing to focus on hearing, saying and writing the initial sounds that words start with, using the phonics that we have learnt at school so far. Alongside this, the children have been working hard on writing their names with accurate letter formation. We would appreciate your continued support with practising this at home, using the laminated name cards that were sent home at the beginning of term and the letter formation sheets you received more recently.

In Maths this week, we have focused on subitising (instantly recognising quantities without needing to count) both objects and sounds. We have also been using positional language to describe patterns of 4 (e.g. "There are 2 blocks on the top and 2 on the bottom."), as well as making our own patterns of 4.

In Phonics this week, we have learnt the sounds ck, e, u, and r, which you will find in your child's book bag today, along with the Rainbow Word 'to'. We really appreciate the time spent practising quick recall of these at home; it makes such a difference! It is also great if you can spend a few minutes each day practising blending sounds together to read short words. We recommend starting with words containing a consonant and a vowel (CV words), such as 'at', 'it' and 'on', before moving on to words containing a consonant, vowel and consonant (CVC words), such as 'cat', 'mop' and 'ten'.

On Thursday, we enjoyed a small Harvest Festival with some local nurseries. We spoke about the meaning of harvest and shared some stories and songs with the younger children.

We have also been introducing some wider curriculum subjects this week. In History (Past and Present), we learnt about how transport has changed over time. In RE, we discussed books that are special to us, as well as a special books for Christians (the bible) and Muslims (the Qur'an). In PSHE, we have been focusing on friendships, the qualities of a good friend, and the importance of saying sorry if we have a disagreement or falling out with a friend.

#### Dates for your diaries

- **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October** -Last day of Term 1
- **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October** -First day of Term 2
- **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October** -Staff Development Day - children not in school
- **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November** -Parent Teacher Consultations

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

The Foundation Team