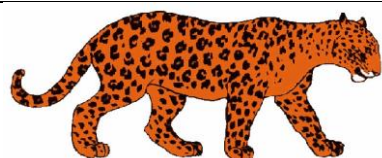


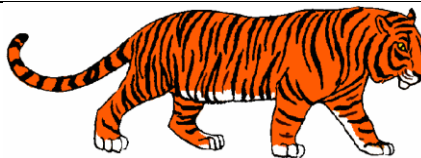
Waterbeach Community Primary School

Early Years Foundation Stage Team Letter

End of Spring – Summer Term 2024



Leopards
Mrs Mills



Tigers
Mrs Conroy



Panthers
Ms Fowler

Wow, what a short but busy term! The highlight of this half term has been seeing the awe and wonder on the faces of the children (and staff!) whilst watching the eggs hatch and when holding a chick for the first time. Our trip to Church Farm was also a brilliant day out! The children were incredibly well behaved and caring towards the animals on the farm. We hope you all have a lovely Easter break, and we are looking forward to seeing the children back on Monday 15th April.

Exciting things the children will be learning in the Summer Term

We have two exciting topics to learn about in the Summer term: '**How does your garden grow?**' and '**Nature Explorers**'.

How does your garden grow?

When we return after the Easter Holidays, we will read and watch a version of the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' to begin our topic. Over the first half term, we will read the traditional tale, alongside some alternative versions of the story and share our opinions of these. We will learn the story of Jack and the Beanstalk using actions to help us and draw our own story maps. We will celebrate Earth Day during the first week back after Easter and we will have the opportunity to plant and grow our own beans and sunflowers (as well as a few more things). We will learn about how different plants and flowers grow and take part in an experiment to investigate the things that plants need to grow. We will also learn some Jack and the Beanstalk songs which we will perform on stage. Please see dates below.

Nature Explorers

Our second topic will begin after half term. We will start this topic by going on a bug hunt in our Orchard and will have an exciting delivery of caterpillars. We will learn about the life cycle of the butterfly and have first-hand experience of the transformation of caterpillar to butterfly while we care for the caterpillars in the classroom. We will also create a 'minibeast lab' to observe different insects in the classroom. We will read some of the minibeast themed stories from the Eric Carle series and focus on 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' in more detail. We will, again, learn the story using actions to help us, we will create our own story maps and innovate the story. We will celebrate the end of the topic and end of the school year by having a 'Beautiful Bug Ball.'

More information about our curriculum

More information about the curriculum content can be found in our [Curriculum Captures](#) on the school website. These are useful for parents to see the content of what is being taught and to use this information to help support your child at home.

EATING & DRINKING

Children should bring a named bottle with WATER ONLY for them to drink during the day. Juice is not permitted to be drunk throughout the day (only with their lunch). Please, please do not put water bottles in book bags. We have had many reading and home learning books ruined due to leaking bottles. You may wish to purchase a separate bottle carrier that attaches to the side of the book bag.

SNACK & LUNCH

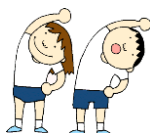
Children have a fruit snack and milk provided by the government each day. All children in Foundation Stage are entitled to Free School Meals. Please help your child to make their choice for school lunches by sharing the menu with them before school. The [School Lunch Menu](#) can be found here.

TOYS FROM HOME

Please note that children are NOT allowed to bring any toys from home into school in case they get broken or lost.

PE

For the first half term, our P.E. sessions will be **Ball Skills** and will continue to take place on **Mondays**. Children will need shorts, t-shirts and plimsols only for these lessons. Please ensure all long hair is clipped/tied back for PE lessons and earrings are removed before coming to school.



Later in the Summer term, we will start **Swimming**. Further details about swimming will be shared next term once the timetabling has been finalised. Children must wear **labelled** school uniform on swimming days.

Forest School

Foundation Stage will continue to go to the woodland once a week until we begin swimming and this will continue to be on **Friday**.



On Fridays, children should come to school dressed in old clothes that are suitable for getting mucky and practical for activities such as climbing trees and den building in all weathers. Please ensure their legs and arms are covered. Dresses are not appropriate for Forest School. Children should also bring a change of shoes, preferably wellies, with them to wear whilst they are in the forest area. Please make sure they wear their normal school shoes to school. Please ensure your child has a **rain coat** with them at school every day as we use the outdoor space every day and our weather is often unpredictable.

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SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS



8.40 – Children are met at their classroom door/gate by their teacher
 8.45 – Registration opens
 8.50 – Doors will close, after this time, children will be late and will need to come to the office and be signed in.
 11.45– 12.45 – Lunchtime
 3.15 – End of the school day

Class Teachers & Teacher PPA (Planning, Preparation & Assessment) Time

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Leopards	Mrs Mills	Mrs Bienzobas	Mrs Mills	Mrs Mills	Mrs Mills
Tigers	Mrs Conroy	Mrs Conroy	Mrs Conroy	Mrs Conroy	Mrs Conroy
	Mrs Bienzobas				
Panthers	Mrs Bienzobas	Ms Fowler	Ms Fowler	Ms Fowler	Ms Fowler
	Ms Fowler				

Teaching Assistant Support – Across the week your children will be working with:
 Mrs Langley, Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Americo and Mrs Keohane

BEHAVIOUR INFORMATION

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for everyone so that we can all work together in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe that we can do this by trying to keep the school rules.

We are gentle	We are honest	We are kind and helpful
We try our best	We listen	We look after property

For more details on our behaviour policy please see the [follow this link to the school website page.](#)

HOME LEARNING

Reading: Each week the children will bring home a Little Wandle Reading book linked to the child's phonic knowledge. This is a book that they should 'show off' and celebrate their reading with you after they have three reading practice sessions in school. **Please return this book to school every Monday.**

Children will also bring a 'choice' book home which we ask you to read to your child and share the pleasure of reading a book together. It is important to aim to read daily to your child. **Please keep this book in your child's book bag so that we can change these weekly.**

Phonics Books: Please continue to practise your child's sounds at home weekly. Please see the information in the front cover of the book for ways to use this book.

COMMUNICATION

We aim to have open communication channels to keep you informed about everything that is going on in school and to give easy access to speak to us if needed. Ways we can communicate:

School/team letters – all letters are sent via email.

Weekly learning sharing – every Friday an email is sent out to give you an overview of what the children will be learning about the following week, this may also have important notices on.

Website – we hope the website is a good reference source, if there are things that you would like to see included, please let us know.

Email – you can send emails to your child's class teacher or team leader. The protocol is that teachers will respond within 3 working days. If you need a more urgent response, then you can leave a message with the school office or send a note to your child's class teacher.

Leopards Teacher and Team Leader – Mrs Mills dmills@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Tigers Teacher – Mrs Conroy cconroy@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Panthers Teacher – Ms Fowler jfowler@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Appointments – if you would like to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher, please contact them via email, school office or letter to arrange a suitable time.

Concerns – if you have any concerns about an issue within the class, please email or speak to the class teacher in the first instance. Then if needed concerns can be raised with the team leader, Mrs Mills. When necessary, you may then wish to contact Miss Green (headteacher) or Mrs Ogilvie (deputy headteacher).

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Summer Term Key Dates

We aim to keep to these dates but occasionally due to circumstances beyond our control, they may need to change.

April

Monday 15 th April	Term Opens
Friday 19 th April	Earth Day Gardening Afternoon
Monday 29 th April	Class Photos

May

Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 8 th and Thursday 9 th	EYFS Sharing Assembly – Our Jack and the Beanstalk Performance
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st May	HALF TERM

June

Monday 3 rd June	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 4 th June	Term Opens

July

During July (Dates TBC)	Jump Up Days (spending time in our new Year 1 classes)
During July (Date TBC)	Transition Meeting for Parents (EYFS-Year 1)
Friday 19 th July	Last Day of Term

[For term dates for the rest of the year follow this link.](#)

Please do not hesitate to talk to your child's class teacher if you have any questions.
We are really looking forward to continuing to work with you and your child in the new year.

The Foundation Stage Team ☺