

# Newsletter Term 5

Reception

How does it Grow?

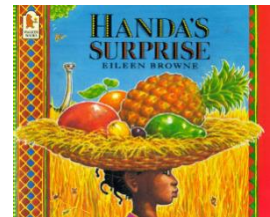
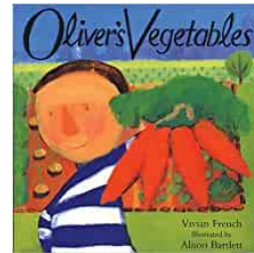
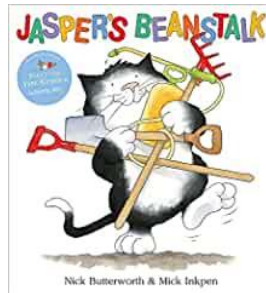
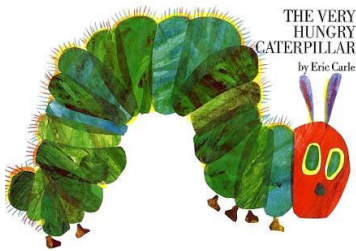


Dear Parents,

Welcome back, we hope you had a great Easter holiday! Our topic for this term is 'How does it grow?'

Our key texts this term will include:

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## Areas of Learning

**Literacy** – We will be continuing to focus on using high frequency words in our writing as well as spelling words with more than one syllable. We will be writing our own stories based on the texts we are reading, as well as looking closely at the characters, settings and events of the stories we are sharing. We will be exploring other genres of writing such as postcards and fact files.

**Maths** – In Maths, we will be solving problems that apply all of the skills we have learnt so far. As well as this, we will be continuing to develop our knowledge of number, addition, subtraction, number bonds, practising doubling and halving as well as noticing patterns in our number system. We will use our topic to explore measurement of length, height and capacity and to introduce pictograms and other simple mathematical graphs and charts.

## Understanding the World

The children will be making lots of observations and predictions about things that grow. We will be growing beans and sunflowers and finding out about what plants need to grow and thrive. Towards the end of the term, we are hoping to host some caterpillars so that we can closely observe their lifecycle. This will build on what the children learned when the chicks were here!

## Home Learning Links

### Reading

We will be reviewing and embedding phases 2 and 3 and beginning work on phase 4 phonics. Phase 4 phonics aims to ensure that all children can give the sound when shown any of the phase 2 and 3 graphemes. We will be learning to blend and read words containing two adjacent consonants and we will be learning to segment and spell these words. We will also be embedding our quick recognition of a range of tricky words.

<p><b>Writing</b></p>	<p>The children will be continuing to practise their letter formation. Please help your child to form letters correctly, as they write. Please encourage your child to write in every possible context – shopping lists, cards to grandparents etc. It is important that they are encouraged to write in a phonetically plausible way as this will enable them to be independent when writing.</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p>	<p>The most important thing for children in their reception year is that they can read, write, order and recognise numbers to 10. Please encourage the children to count their toys when playing and try to write and use numbers when appropriate at home. We will also be looking out for the numbers and symbols that help us know what a number is without counting – this is called subitising! We will continue to learn our teen numbers and to embed our understanding of number patterns and bonds.</p>

**Key questions to ask your child at home:**

- What does a plant need to grow?      What do you grow at home?**  
**What is your favourite thing to do outside?      What job would you like to do outside?**

**Key vocabulary**

Plants, growing, Spring, soil, water, leaves, roots, grow, forest, woods, animals, life cycles, weather, sun, rain, earth, mud.

**Useful Websites**

[www.ictgames.co.uk](http://www.ictgames.co.uk) and [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk) for Literacy and Maths games.  
[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk) Phase 3 and 4 games, blending sounds and words.  
 If you wish to make games to have fun at home with learning, you can print from:  
[www.twinkl.co.uk](http://www.twinkl.co.uk) and search plants, outside, growing, to find games and activities to learn vocabulary and facts linked to the topic.

**Quick Reminders**

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a named water bottle and their book bags with reading journal and book each day. This should be filled with water only. The children are provided with a free fruit snack at school. Should you choose to provide your child with a snack please can this be fruit and/or a carbohydrate such as a cracker or breadsticks.
- Can the children please always have a coat in school especially for wet and rainy days- we still play outside!
- As the weather gets warmer, please ensure that your child has a **named** sun hat with them. Please can the children also have sun cream applied before their arrival to school as **we are unable to do this at school**.
- Our PE days are Monday and Thursdays this term. Please ensure PE kits are in school at the beginning of the week.



We hope you all enjoy sharing this learning journey with your children. Please do not hesitate to come and speak to us if necessary.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Howes & Mrs Luckhurst