'Glorious Growing'
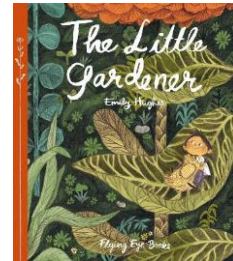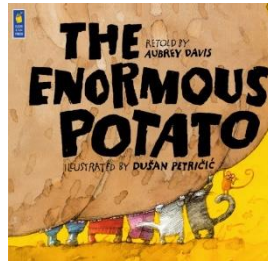# Cherry Class Newsletter Term 5 2023

Dear Parents,

Our new topic for term 5 is 'Glorious Growing'. We will be looking at parts of a flower, the life cycle of a plant, exploring how bees help our plants and growing some flowers ourselves. We will also be doing some cooking, looking at healthy food that our farmers grow and discussing how our village has changed over time. We have a wonderfully exciting term planned that we hope the children will enjoy in some sunny weather!

Some of the key texts we will be using for our learning are:

Questions to ask at home:
- What is healthy food?
- How have our farms/villages/towns changed over time?
- What foods grow in the ground and what grows on tress?
- What foods can we grow in the UK and what grows in other countries?
- How do plants grow?
- What do bees do?

Home Learning Tasks

You could have a go at some of these at home:

- Cooking some yummy healthy food
- Planting seeds and watching them grow (cress is always good!)
- Drawing the life cycle of a plant
- Designing and making a plant habitat from recyclable material
- Design your own farm to grow foods
- Go on a walk around your village/town and draw or write what you see. What is old/new?

The learning map attached to this newsletter outlines the areas we will be learning about and some of the work we will be doing in teacher-focused activities and group work.

Home Learning

Reading	Please read with your child at least three times a week, even if it is just for 5 minutes. When reading with your child, please ensure it is signed and dated, with the number of minutes that the child has read for included. A member of staff will be checking reading diaries on a Thursday and counting the minutes for reading miles! Children in Year 1 (and some children in Year 2) are using Little Wandle books, a new one is sent home each week. The aim is that by the end of the week your child can read this book fluently without sounding out. During reading sessions, please discuss the story with your child and ask them questions about what they are reading. These questions will help to develop their understanding of what they are reading as comprehension and discussion are key reading skills in Year 1 and 2. Children who are not reading Little Wandle books (Purple Band and above) can change their reading books, within their book band, at any time from our class library.
Phonics & Spelling	Spellings or Phonics tasks will be given out each week and will be reviewed on Fridays. Please practise these words with your child at home.
Maths	Please can children continue to learn their times tables at home. Year 1 children should be learning 10x, 2x and 5x tables. When secure with the 2x, 5x and 10x tables, Year 2 children should be moving onto 3x and 4x tables. The BBC Bitesize website has links to times tables songs that children can learn. https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/zqbg87h

Useful websites to support our topic

- Phonics Bloom - https://www.phonicsbloom.com/ we often play these games in class and the children love them!
- https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/gardening-children-schools/family-activities/grow-it - Lots of lovely ideas on the RHS website for family growing activities.
- https://thebeeconservancy.org/10-ways-to-save-the-bees/ - great ideas for how we can do things at home to help protect bees #BeeTheSolution
- https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/times-tables - times tables games for 5-7 year olds.

Reminders

- Please ensure your child brings in a **water bottle** and their **book bag** each day.
- Please ensure your child's jumper has their name inside.
- The children will need to have a **coat** in school every day as the weather can be unpredictable.
- Our PE session with Mr D is on Monday morning, but PE kits should be in every day as we sometimes have other active sessions throughout the week.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs King and Mrs Pike

Term 5 – Glorious Growing - Topic Map

Literacy	Characterisation 	Narrative 	Instruction
Maths	Geometry 	Problem Solving 	Fractions
Science		Plant/bees 	
History & Geography	Maps 	Significant person 	Environment changes
ICT	E-Safety 		Animated stories
PSHE		Relationships	
DT		Baking 	