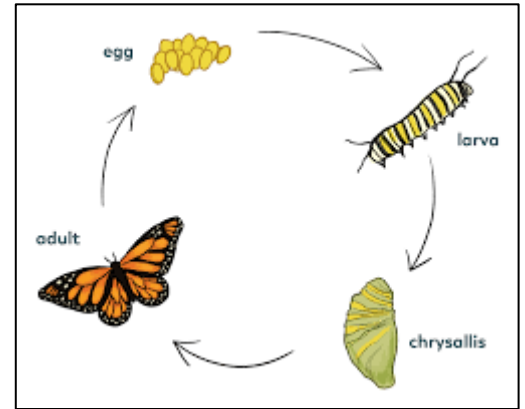


# PANDAS' TOPIC NEWSLETTER

## Summer Term 2026

### Circle of Life (6 weeks)

Our very exciting topic this half term is called 'Circle of Life'. In this topic, the children will have some wonderful immersive experiences to further their learning. We have invited 'Crazy Creatures' into school, who will introduce us to a variety of reptiles and insects. The children will have the opportunity to touch and hold some of the creatures; however, others will be kept securely inside their containers! Throughout the topic, the children will be learning about the lifecycles of plants, animals and themselves. The children will be fortunate enough to watch



the life cycle of a butterfly from their own classrooms, making observations and writing about the changes. We also have some lovely farm animals visiting us on the playground which the children will be able to observe and meet a farmer!

During the topic, the children will explore information books about minibeasts and write their own facts. They will also become storytellers when they learn *The Hungry Caterpillar* story. We will be focusing on factual writing and creating non-chronological reports about the life cycle of a butterfly and a frog. Our children working within the Early Years Foundation Stage will also enjoy a range of activities in their Discover and Explore sessions that support their understanding of life cycles, minibeasts and much more! All of the children will continue to practise their writing in line with their phonics.

In maths, the children working at a Year 2 level of learning will cover pictograms, place value, addition and subtraction and measuring mass. The children accessing a Year 1 level of learning will cover counting in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s, sharing equally, doubling and halving and quartering shapes and amounts. The children working at an EYFS level will be learning about odd and even numbers, number bonds, the meaning of equal and unequal and measurements including; mass, length and capacity.

In science, the children will be learning all about life cycles and observing change. In art, the children will be learning about the artist Bisa Butler. They will then create inspired pieces of art using fabrics. In geography, the children will learn about land and sea and the 5 oceans. They will also learn about plastic pollution and what we can do to look after our oceans and beaches. Additionally, the children will learn through discover and explore sessions, applying what they have learnt into their play.

# Home Learning Activity

For the children's home learning, we would like the children to follow their interest by doing either of the following:

- create a piece of work that represents the life cycle of a frog, butterfly or another animal of interest! This can be presented in anyway that engages and interests your child.
- learn about a minibeast and create something to share with their friends. They could choose to write a fact book about a particular mini beast; draw or paint a picture of them or create a paper mache minibeast.

We look forward to seeing your fantastic home learning. Each child will be able to share their home learning with the class and will receive a certificate for completing it too.

Please can you send in your child's home learning at the latest by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May**.

## PE

Our PE this half term will be indoors, therefore the children will need shorts and a top. Over this half term, the children will be learning different types of rolls. They will also learn how to move from one roll into another. Towards the end of the half term, the children will enjoy some time on the apparatus where they will get the opportunity to climb up and down the wall bars.



Your child's PE bag will be sent home at the end of each half term for a wash. Please ensure that a full kit is provided. Any earrings must be removed (tape is not permitted) on PE days and long hair must always be tied back.

## Forest School

The children will continue to go to Forest School every Monday. They will enjoy a range of activities that involve using tools and exploring nature. Please send in a pair of wellies with your child if you have not done so already. We will provide your child with waterproof overalls.

As we may have some warmer weather this half term, please pack your child a spare top for Forest School as they may not be wearing their coat.

## PSHE & Religion and Worldviews

This half term, the focus for our PSHE lessons will be 'Relationships'. This will involve learning about their own families and how all families look different. They will also learn about how to be a good friend and how to resolve friendship issues. Finally, the children will learn about appropriate physical contact and that 'privates' are



private' through our PANTS lesson which is delivered across the school. A letter with more information regarding this lesson will be sent home later in the half term.

In Religion and Worldviews, the children will be learning all about different types of celebrations. They will first learn about weddings and how these can be celebrated. They will then learn about a range of different celebrations that take place in different parts of the world and in different religions.

## Focus Author

Each half term, we learn about an author and we read a range of their books. Our focus author next half term is Eric Carle who wrote various books, including 'The Hungry Caterpillar' and 'The Bad-Tempered Ladybird.' It would be fantastic if you could share any books by this author at home or visit the local library to borrow some books written by this author.



## Supporting at Home

We are so incredibly proud of the children and the hard work that they are putting into their learning. We know that this is due to the partnership we have formed with you as parents and carers. Please continue to read with your child at least 3 times a week and record this in their reading record. If you're unsure about how to support your child with their learning at home, please let us know and we will be more than willing to help and support you.

## Calendar Dates

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Crazy Creatures

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May – Bank holiday

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Beachwise Assembly

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May – Farm Visit

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Walk to School Week

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Half term

Specific letters about some of these events have already been sent or will follow shortly.

Thank you for your support.  
Miss White and the Pandas' team