



Highbury Primary School
Foundation Stage
Spring 2 2019



Dear Parent/Guardians of children in Hedgehogs, Squirrels, Daisies and Buttercups

This half term our theme will be '**What animal will you become?**' and our focus book will be the **Ed's Egg**. We will also be exploring information books about how animals grow and change from an egg.

In **Communication and Language** we will be sharing lots of different texts and retelling these stories using Talk for Writing including actions and drama. We will encourage the children to use more language from the stories in their role play, asking questions about why things happen, changes and responding to others' ideas. Please continue to read every day with your children; perhaps try Bug Club for those of you who have internet access.

Our learning in **Physical Development** will be to use different movements to develop our gross motor skills and move to music as a variety of different animals. We will be experiencing the awe and wonder of new life with our incubator! On a Friday, the children in Reception will start their PE sessions so please ensure that a named kit in a named bag is present at school.

Our **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** will be working as a class to care for each other and our animals and build positive relationships. We will be talking about working towards our own goals as well as continuing to learn how to behave in school and how to negotiate and solve problems with and without adult support. We will also talk about animal safety and hygiene and keeping safe outside of school.

In **Literacy** Reception will continue to develop their letters and sounds through daily group sessions including games and handwriting to learn letter formation and decoding skills. On alternative Wednesdays, parents and carers are welcome to join the children in Reception for a Phonics Session led by the Class Teacher. We will still continue with the Family Reading mornings on alternative weeks on Wednesdays. We will have many opportunities to practice our emerging writing skills through our theme using new keywords and writing in sentences. Daisies will continue to learn fun phonics each day, listening closely to different sounds and recognising words that rhyme. We will use 'Talk for Writing' to retell the life cycle of a hen and then add our own details to the life cycle as we watch the chicks hatch and change.

In **Mathematics** we will be continuing with our counting, progressing onto higher numbers. All children will continue to practise recognising numbers, writing numbers, counting through songs and rhymes, finding one more or one less than a given number as well as simple addition and subtraction, using a variety of different methods and equipment to support their learning. We will continue to look at shapes and find a variety of ways to use them in our learning.

In our **Understanding the World** we will be looking at the different animals, the ways they move, similarities and differences in their skin patterns and the variety of environments they live in. We will go on walks within our school grounds to spot different animals and record what we have seen. We will compare animals we have as pets and look at animals from faraway lands.

In **Expressive Arts and Design** we will be creating chick collages, designing eggs for animals, making hen houses and constructing habitats for our choice of animal. We will link our stories to role playing using our themed role play areas and sing and make music around different animals.

Homework, please complete a piece of learning to show how we care for others and animals. You may like to; bring in photographs, make a poster on caring for your pet/family member or you may want to use your imagination and create an animal which comes from an egg.

Have a safe and happy half term.

Yours sincerely

The Foundation Stage Team