Term 3 2014 (Year 1)

Dear Parents,

Over the next few weeks those of us in Year 1 will be following a unit of work on a theme that focuses on "Flowers and Insects".

This unit of work is part of the International Primary Curriculum. This new curriculum sets out very clearly what children will learn — the learning goals — in three different areas:

1. The subjects of the curriculum. The learning goals for each of these subjects are at least as challenging as anything taught in the curriculum in your child’s own country. In many cases, the learning goals are more challenging.

2. Personal development — the characteristics which will help children become more responsible, independent learners.

3. International understanding — which will help children develop both a sense of the independence of their own country and culture and the interdependence between countries and cultures.

Each unit of work is based around specific targets derived from the learning goals for one or more of the subjects.

All of the work we are going to do has been specially written to help your child reach the learning goals. Children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking to see how well your child has learned through particular activities and asking children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

We already know the interest you take in your child’s work. If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you.

Talk with your child about the toys and games that you used to play with when you were growing up. If you still have examples of these toys, then show them to your child and talk about how you played with them. Collect and look at old photographs that feature family members playing with toys. Help your child to understand how toys have changed over time.

If your child has some work to research, please help them, but without actually doing the work. If you have the chance to further their interest in the ideas of this theme please take it, but your enthusiasm and interest is most important. Please allow your child to bring in a potted plant during the 1st week of school for activity purpose.

By the end of the unit, we hope your child has achieved all of the learning targets. We hope they have had an enjoyable time in the classroom. And we hope you have enjoyed seeing your child work with enthusiasm. If you have any comments about the work your child has done, please get in touch.

Thank you.

Puvanes Mahendran
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Literacy
- Things to Make and Do
  - Writing instructions for things to make and do
  - Making a Garden
  - Making paper items following written instructions
- Plots and Plays
  - Read, tell and write stories
  - Role Play
  - Writing a play

IPC
- In Science, we'll be finding out:
  - Where flowers and insects prefer to live and grow
  - How and where seeds grow
  - How to set up tests to discover how plants use water
  - How to grow lots of different things
  - How beans grow
  - About the life cycles of insects
  - About ants and bees

In Geography, we'll be finding out:
- About honey and silk production
- About the migration of the Monarch butterfly

In Art, we'll be finding out:
- About paintings of flowers and insects
- How to make paintings and models of flowers and insects
- How to use symmetry to make painting of insects
- How to create a garden in the classroom

In Music, children will be finding out:
- About the music of the famous composer, Rimsky-Korsakov
- How to create our own music

In International, we'll be finding out:
- About flowers and insects from the host and home countries
- About how climate and weather patterns affect life around the world
- About flowers as emblems for different countries

Flowers and Insects

Numeracy
- Adding in 10s, and 1s
- Grouping in 10s, 10 more, 10 less
- In between numbers, Ordering numbers
- Addition and subtraction
- Counting on and Capacity