



Ladybird Class News!

Hello and welcome to the Ladybird Class!

You will find out during the course of the year that the Ladybird class forms its very own little industry within St. Peters. Many people think we are just a reception class but secretly we are a small business community!

That is why it is important for you to support us in any way you can by being a parent helper in class or coming along on school visits. In return, our aim is to invite you into the classroom as often as we can so that you can see first hand what your child is learning and what happens in their class.

Getting to know you!

In the Ladybird class we really try to build a rapport with our parents and invite them into the classroom as much as possible. As part of this, we would like to have some 'parent meetings', where we can talk to you about your child's likes and dislikes and interests. Parent interviews will take place from **1.30pm onwards** every afternoon in the **first two weeks** by appointment. If you haven't yet put your name down for a time slot, please contact one of the teachers so we can allocate you a time. From this, we will ensure that your child's likes are covered through our topic work and through plan-do-review.

WEDNESDAY plan-do-reviews.

So that we can see you more often, the Ladybird class would like to extend an invite for you to join us every **Wednesday** afternoon from **2.40pm** onwards to join us in a short plan-do-review. You will be able to see your child using the skills they have learnt both at school and home in a play situation. This is an open invitation for every Wednesday and we will try to write a reminder by the school foyer door.

Shared reading.

In order to encourage children to read more both at school and at home, we would like to invite you to a shared reading session on **Tuesday 18th October** from **8.45-9.15am**. This is an opportunity to read both guided reading and book corner books with your child, reinforcing the sounds of letters learnt, common words and our enjoyment of reading! We will hold a shared reading once a seasonal term, so look out for the next date in a letter!

Play and share sessions.

So that you can see what goes on in the Ladybird class, we will be inviting one parent/carer to come in for one morning a week to have both a lesson and plan-do-review session with their child. From this, you will be able to see how we teach your child key skills and then how these are practised in play. Each parent/carer will be given an allotted day and time for you to come in and these dates will also be placed on the school website so that you have advanced notice! The intended days will be either a Tuesday or Thursday morning from **8.45-12 noon**, though you do not have to stay for the entire time if you wish. If you are unable to attend, perhaps a grandma or other relative could come

and we would especially like to extend our invitation to dads, granddads etc. so the children see that school is interesting for boys too!

Teddy bear's picnic.

On **Wednesday 12th October**, the Ladybird class will be having a teddy bear's picnic. We would like to invite you to come at **2.45pm** to join your child on the field for the picnic with their favourite teddy bear. Here we will read stories together, sing nursery rhymes, play hide and seek games and eat the treats the children will have cooked during the day for the occasion - yum yum!

All about me!

This term's topic focuses on everything about your child; their family, friends, parent's jobs and the local community. As part of this, we will have representatives from the emergency services visiting and will be exploring both our school and outside. On **Monday 19th September, 9-10am**, we will be walking around our local area, looking at different types of homes, as part of our RE topic "Homes and Families", so please let us know if you can be a **helper** on that day! Also, as part of our drive to keep children interested in reading, I will be collecting children's comic magazines - such as Fireman Sam, Dora and Pokémon - for the children to read in the book corner. If you have any such disused magazines, all donations will be gratefully received throughout the year!

Homework.

Once your child has been attending school for a few weeks, there will be a zippy wallet in their book bag with letters and high frequency words to practise at home. In class, we will cover four letters a week and each week these will be added to the envelope for consolidation at home. Each child will be encouraged as well to take a book home from the 'independent box' every night to read with you. This homework, including the 'love to learn' tasks will also be posted on the school website under the reception link.

Wet weather gear.

Now that we are in the autumn term, the weather is becoming increasingly unreliable. In order for the children to be able to go out during plan-do-review in wet conditions, can I ask please that you provide named wellington boots and a waterproof coat in a carrier bag that can be kept on their peg? This will enable the children to get fresh air and to run around, leaving them motivated and alert in class.

Advanced notice.

In term two, **21st and 24th November**, we will be holding ladybird class parent's evening to discuss your child's progress. Please note this means you will not have to attend the parent's evening in October unless you have older children in the school. A letter will be sent out at the beginning of term two to book appointment times.

Parent Helpers – we need you!

Are you bored? Got time on your hands after half-term? Can you regularly spare us a few hours each week to come in and help? If so, read on. If not, still read on. Whether you are mum, dad, grandma, granddad, or even friend, you can come into the Ladybird class to help with a variety of activities:



Ways to help in class.

Reader: Hearing individual children read.

Group work: Working with a small group during various activities.

Art work: Taking children to do art activities during plan-do-review 11-12 noon.

Ways to help from home.

Resources: You can help to make new resources by cutting out etc.
(All materials will be provided).

Thank you in advance and we look forward to seeing you.

Mrs James & Mrs Davies