

Dosbarth Afal, Year 1 & 2 Summer Newsletter

Dear Parents,

It's wonderful to see all the children back in school safe and well after the Easter holiday. They have all enjoyed sharing their holiday news and especially how many Easter eggs they had!

Topic Work

This term we will be continuing with our topic **Living Things and their Habitats**. We will be comparing different micro-habitats, finding out about different habitats around the world, investigating food chains and life cycles.

Also, this term, Year 1 and 2 pupils are learning about holidays, places around the world, different weather and food from other countries in our topic **Our Big Holiday Adventure**. They will compare Wales with other places, explore hot and cold climates, and discover where food comes from.

How you can help:

Please talk with your child about places you've visited in the Uk and abroad, look at maps or globes together and discuss different foods at home.

Reading and Key words

Working together makes all the difference!

The partnership between home and school is key to helping your child become a confident reader. Spending a little time each day reading together and practising sounds, keywords, and spellings really helps your child make great progress.

Please remember to return bookbags to school every **Monday or Wednesday**, depending on your **child's group**. **Thank you for your continued support**, it truly makes a big impact on their learning journey!

Reading Tip: Let your child choose the book! When they pick a story, they're excited about, reading becomes a fun adventure rather than a chore. You could even take turns choosing books to keep it interesting!

Fun and practical ideas to promote reading when out and about:

- **Read Signs and Labels:** Encourage your child to read road signs, shop names, menus, and posters while walking or driving. Play **"Spot the Word"** - who can find the longest word or a word starting with a certain letter?
- **Shopping:** Let your child read the shopping list and tick off items. Ask them to read labels on food packaging and find words they recognise.
- **Restaurant Menus:** Have your child read the menu and choose their meal. Play a game: **"Find all the words that start with 'C' on the menu."**
- **Bus or Train Adventures:** Read timetables, station names, and maps together. Ask questions like **"What time does the next bus leave?"** or **"Which stop comes after ours?"**

- Park and Playground: Read information boards, safety signs, and maps.
- Library or Bookshop Visits: Let them choose a book and read the blurb aloud. Encourage them to read signs for different sections (e.g., "Fiction," "Non-fiction").
- Everyday Errands; Read receipts, tickets, and appointment cards. Ask them to read instructions on machines (e.g., parking meters, ATMs).

Numeracy/Maths

Please continue developing and consolidating maths skills at home, try these activities:

- Counting: Play "Count and Clap" - clap as you count in 1's, 10s, 5s, or 2s. Use everyday objects (coins, Lego, pasta) to count forwards and backwards.
- Year 2 Times Tables (10s, 5s and 2s): Sing times table songs or use online games like 'Hit the Button'. Play "Times Table Bingo" - write answers on cards and call out questions.
- Telling the Time (o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to): Use an analogue clock at home - ask "What time is it now?" Play "Time Hunt" - hide cards with times around the house for your child to find and read.
- Days and Months: Create a colourful calendar together and mark special dates. Sing days-of-the-week and months-of-the-year songs.
- Shapes (2D and 3D): Go on a "Shape Hunt" around the house or outside - find circles, squares, cubes, etc. Build 3D shapes using playdough or Lego.
- Measure: Using standard units to measure/read scales (e.g. length, height and distance: metres, half metres or centimetre; weight/mass: kilograms or 10-gram weights; capacity: litres)
- Problem solving - 1 step and 2 step problems.
- Learn Its: Play quick-fire "Number Bond Challenge" - how many ways to make 10/20? Use flashcards for doubles and adding small numbers. Play 'Hit the Button' online games.

General Reminders:

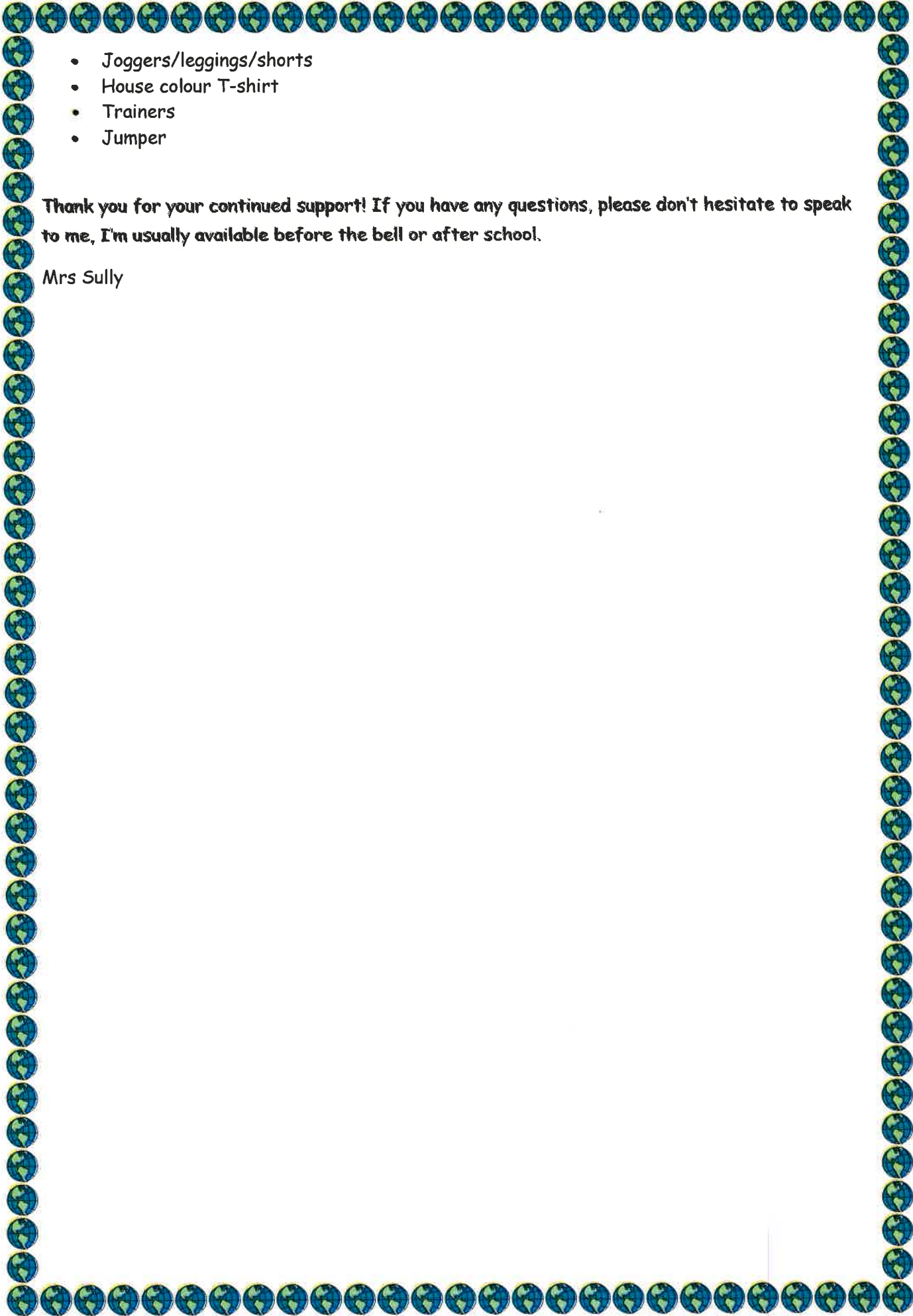
Sun Safety! - We will be spending lots of time outdoors and we are hoping for some warm and sunny weather! Please send your child in with a hat each day, as well as applying sun cream each morning before school. A waterproof coat may also be required!

If you haven't already done so, please label all your child's belongings. If they are still learning to fasten their coat or tie their laces, please continue practising these skills at home. Thank you for your support!

Water Bottles - Please ensure your child brings a clearly named water bottle to school each day, water only, please. Use a permanent pen or sticker for labelling.

Snack Time - If you haven't already signed up and would like your child to have school fruit snacks during the week, please visit ParentPay to arrange this - the last day to sign up for this term is Sunday 19th April. On 'Free Friday', only one small snack is needed.

Physical Development Afternoons - Every Wednesday, your child should come to school wearing their full PE kit:

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- Joggers/leggings/shorts
 - House colour T-shirt
 - Trainers
 - Jumper

Thank you for your continued support! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak to me, I'm usually available before the bell or after school.

Mrs Sully

