**Week Beginning- Summer 2017, week 1, 24/04/2017**

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and welcome you back to the summer term. Our focus for the next few weeks is Jack and the Beanstalk. The children will have noticed some rather large footprints left in our outside area and they will also be receiving a mystery package. We will be going on a Giant hunt (who has probably got stuck down here when the beanstalk fell down) and writing about what might happen next in the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

In our language work we will also be sharing different versions of Jack and the Beanstalk over the next few weeks and would love to read any your child enjoys reading at home with you. Please send them in but try to make sure they are named so they can easily be returned to you. Our challenge question is ‘what would happen if plants never stopped growing?’

In mathematics we will be focusing on estimating – using beans and seeds, among other things. We will also be looking at counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. The children are expected to be working with numbers up to 20. The more confident children will be working with larger numbers and writing numbers down. There are some estimating games you could play at home:

Estimating marbles

<http://www.iboard.co.uk/iwb/Estimate-and-Count-Marbles-402>

Estimating bees

<http://www.iboard.co.uk/iwb/Bee-Counting-409>

We would like to start planting and growing seeds over the next few weeks. We wondered if any of you are keen gardeners and would like to do some planting with the children? Please let us know if you would be interested.

Many thanks for your help and support,

The Early Years Team