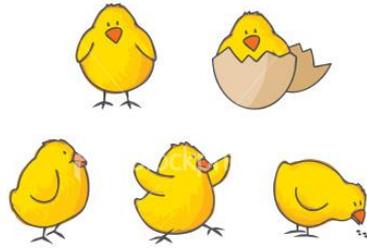


# Hatching Chicks at Meadow Lane School



Dear Parents,

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April a collection of living eggs will be delivered to school!

All classes will have the opportunity to view the eggs, hopefully the hatching process (although I have my video camera ready if they decide on a nocturnal hatch!) and a chance to hold and look after some chicks. Having the programme in school supports our curriculum at all ages this term in learning about: our environment, life cycles, living things, emotional health and wellbeing (happiness/positive attachment/love and loss)

If you would like more information about the programme please visit the website at:

[www.livingeggs.co.uk](http://www.livingeggs.co.uk)

Here you will find activities to help support your child's learning plus any questions you may have regarding:

- Ethical Considerations when using animals in School
- Hygiene, health and safety
- Animal Welfare
- Allergies (**please let us know of any issues regarding your child, thank you**)

The eggs and chicks will be in school for 2 weeks. Therefore we will be preparing the children to say a 'fond' farewell to the chicks when they have to return to the farm. We will also be preparing the children for the possibility that some chicks may not survive, as this is usual with any batch of eggs. These are important learning experiences for young children and we know you will support our work in helping children through these life skills.

During the school day the brooder box and chicks will spend time in every class, however after school the chicks will be mainly sited in Classes 2 and 5. If you would like to see the eggs or chicks after school that would be wonderful. However could you please be mindful of the following:

- Only 8-10 people in the room at once please (including children). It is important that the chicks are not stressed by excess noise or movement.
- If the eggs have not yet hatched, the incubator mustn't be opened, touched or moved. (The eggs are delivered 3 days before hatching when the hen no longer turns or sits on them. It is important that they are not disturbed at this time to ensure a successful hatch and that a constant temperature is maintained.)
- We would ask you not to handle chicks unless a member of staff is present. All pupils will have a chance to handle chicks during school time, where they will be shown correct handling to ensure the chicks' safety and wellbeing.

Thank you for your support with this.

Here's to a cracking good fortnight! Sorry!

Kind Regards, Gail Roy (Science/PSHE Coordinator)