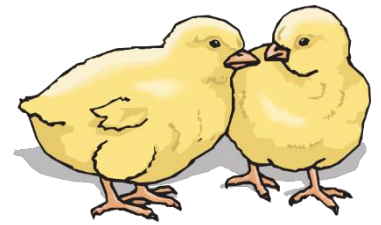




CALF CLUB DAY CHICKENS



For students who would like to raise a chicken and enter it at this year's Calf Club Day

- **Chickens will cost \$10 each and will need to be pre-ordered at the office by Friday 14 June (see **order form below**).** It is advisable to order more than one chicken to (a) have a back-up chicken and (b) so the chickens will have company.
- **1 day old chicks will arrive at school** during the first week of Term 3. Children will need to have a suitable container for the chickens to travel home in safely and also have food, water plus a brooder box and light ready at home.
- **At Calf Club chickens will be judged in four sections:**
 1. Child/Chicken relationship: How your child relates to their chicken
 2. Rearing: The health and looks of the chicken
 3. Photo: "You & Your Chicken"
 4. Cage Decoration: For Calf Club Day itself, you will need to provide a wire crate or suitable cage to house your chicken in. **Spruce up and decorate your chicken's cage. Have fun and be creative!**



DRURY SCHOOL CALF CLUB CHICKEN ORDER FORM:

Name: _____

Room:

Name: _____

Room:

Name: _____

Room:

I would like to order day-old Shaver brown chickens at \$10 each

Number of pullets wanted: _____

Amount enclosed: \$

Optional – bags of food \$2.00

Amount enclosed: \$



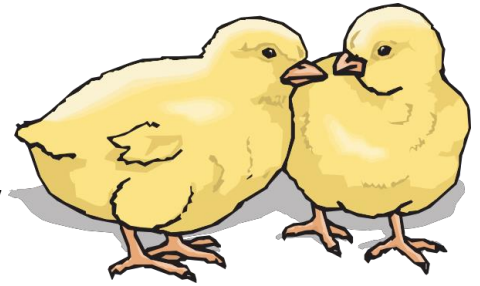
[] or paid online into bank account 12-3023-0525524-00 with child's name and "CHICKEN" as ref

Delivery date to be advised but it will be in the first week of Term 3

ORDERS AND PAYMENT MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY FRIDAY 14 JUNE

No late orders can/will be accepted

REARING INSTRUCTIONS FOR DAY OLD BACKYARD CHICKENS



ON RECEIPT OF CHICKENS:

You are going to take home a female baby chicken that is only one day old). It is covered with fluffy down. (The chickens will have been vaccinated against salmonella and mareks disease.) Very quickly you will see your chicken grow and change, if you feed it regularly and look after it carefully.

See that the chickens are warm as this is their first need – chicks will not start to feed if they are cold. Brooding temperatures should be 33°C for the first week and reduced weekly until down to about 15°C. They can be kept in a hot water cupboard for the first couple of nights. A 40 to 60 watt bulb suspended over a suitable box and about 300mm above the chicks will provide a suitable temperature.

HOW TO MAKE A BROODER



Until your chicken is about 4 weeks old, it has to be kept warm in a brooder. A carton or polystyrene box about 30 cm x 24 cm x 24 cm high is ideal. This can be enlarged to a bigger box as the chickens grow. For the first week after you take it home, the light should be kept on at night and if it is cold, during the day too. If the weather continues to be cold, the light should be left on until the chicken has its feathers. It is also beneficial to have more than one chicken for warmth and company. Brooding temperatures should be 33°C for the first week and reduced weekly until

down to about 15°C. They can be kept in a hot water cupboard for the first couple of nights. A 40 to 60 watt bulb suspended over a suitable box and about 300mm above the chicks will provide a suitable temperature.

The light provides heat for the chickens. They will come close to it when they are cool and move away when they are hot. If they huddle near the light you may need to add a second one for added warmth or increase the wattage of the bulb or increase the insulation of the box. Both the crumpled newspaper and the external box provide insulation so that the temperature inside the brooder does not fluctuate with the outside temperature. The straw or hay also provides extra warmth for the chicks and allows for easy cleaning of the brooder.

See that all facilities are kept strictly clean at all times. As chicks grow, quarters must be enlarged.

FEED AND WATER

Access to cool water in a suitable receptacle so that the chicks do not get wet. They will then be in a condition to start feeding. The most suitable feed are chick rearing crumbles, which contain the correct vitamins, or fine chick grain. These are obtainable from feed merchants and most stock and station agents. If you have not got these, the chicks may be started on coarse oatmeal or rolled oats, even a hard-boiled egg chopped finely will assist.



