

Newsletter 14th October 2016

Reading

We started this week with our new reading system, and the children have adapted very well to another job to do each morning. The box will always be in Mrs Heywood/Mrs Richardson's room and you are able to change your book every day. Please ensure that the reading diary is in your child's book bag every day so that if a member of the team needs to add anything to it; it is in their reading bags. We have been delighted with the comments from children and from our families.

Phonics

Phonics this week has included the sounds e, u and r. We have been working with the children on using the existing sounds we know and blending them together. We were delighted to see so many of our families attending our phonics drop in sessions this week, the children were delighted to show how much they have learnt this half term. If you were unable to come, and would like to, please speak to Mrs Dodd to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Throughout the week, the children have been writing their first name, and our focus has been on a capital letter to start their name and correct letter formation, this has been a challenge for all our children this week and they are writing their letters with correct formation and pencil control.

Maths

In maths this week we have been focussing on numbers 1 - 10. We have looked at the ordering of the numbers, used number lines and one more and one less along a number line..

Photographs

Tempest the school photographers were in school on Thursday and again they managed to make the process of taking the photographs of all our children seem effortless. The prints should have been sent home in school bags on Thursday, please contact a member of the office team if you have any queries.

Golden Table

We were treated to a wonderful experience on Friday lunch time, we were invited to sit at the "Golden Table" for our lunch. The children were very excited and so were the team! The Mid-day assistants made the experience very special for our children and I have put some photographs on our web page for you to see.

New Arrival

Congratulations on the arrival of baby Harriet; a recent addition to our school family. Oscar is delighted and shared his news with the whole class which was delightful.

Next Week

Our phonemes next week will be **h**, **b**, **f**. We will focus on the actions associated with these letter sounds (we follow Jolly Phonics) and have a variety of games and activities to support this. We will introduce a new "tricky words" - **to** and **the**. A "tricky word" is a word that you cannot phonetically segment and blend, you just have to know it by sight. These words will be reinforced daily in their phonics sessions. In maths we will look at the numerals 1 - 10 and we will extend this up to 20. We will be using Numicon to support our learning. In our afternoon sessions, we will be talking about our experiences so far in school. We will use the all about me booklet you completed over the summer holidays and see if we addressed the children's apprehension before they started in September.

Parents Evening

On Wednesday 19th October and Thursday 20th October it will be Parent/Teacher consultations. In a change to previous years we are offering an afternoon and evening appointments to allow for flexibility for our families and staff. The sign-up sheets are in the main entrance hall. If you have any problems please do not hesitate to contact our office team.

Stay and Play

It will be our very first Stay and Play session on Monday 17th October 9 am - 10 am. Please try and stay and experience some of the activities that will be available and to share a special time together. If you are unable to attend, other family members are always welcome. Attached is a copy of the activities available and you can share this together before you arrive.

Wellie Walk

We will be going on a Wellie Walk on Monday afternoon around the school grounds looking at our environment. We will use the experience to enhance our literacy work throughout the week. We ask that you send in a pair of wellies into school on Monday morning in a named carrier bag and hang it on your child's peg. The wellies will go home with the children at the end of the day.

Stand Up to Cancer Day - Friday 28th October

I am organising a day in school to raise awareness and also money for two charities that are close to our hearts in school; The Joshua Tree and Macmillan Cancer Trust. It will be a non-uniform day with green being the chosen colour to represent both charities, we ask that the children donate £1; all proceeds will go to The Joshua Tree. At the end of the school day there will be a "cake sale". All cake donations shop bought or home-made can be brought into school on the morning of the 28th October and they will then be sold in the cake sale. All the proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer Trust. It will be a fantastic opportunity for us to work together as a community and raise funds to support our families and friends.

Homework

Thank you for the lovely homework pictures of special people and family members. The children were very engaged with this piece of homework and it generated a lot of lovely conversations about special times together. We always share the homework on Friday afternoons in our "Show and Tell" sessions". It is a special time for the children to be able to have the confidence to talk in front of a group of children. If you are unable to send anything in or complete the homework task, then please talk to your child's teacher. The children do get very disappointed when they have no homework to share with their peers.

As our maths focus has been number this week we ask that you practice counting with your children wherever your weekend takes you... counting in the car, the bath or on the way home from school. Numbers are just about everywhere and can often go un-noticed. Nothing formal to record; just a fun experience to share.

Have a great weekend. Thank you for all your support.

Mrs J Dodd

Mrs K Heywood

Mrs Z Richardson