

Newsletter 21st October 2016

Parents Evening

We have had our first parents evening this week and it was very well supported both in the afternoon and evening sessions. This was a new system and it has proved to be very effective both for our parents and for staff too. Thank you for all the positive comments that we have received, we will always review our systems to ensure a positive experience for everyone. At parents evening you were asked to complete and sign the "Home School Agreement" we ask that you sign and return this form as soon as possible to keep our records up to date.

Reading

Our reading system is progressing very well. The children are more independent; changing new books and organising their morning. 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. Thank you for your support.

Phonics

Phonics this week has included the sounds h, b and f and reviewing the tricky words I and to. We have been working with the children on using the existing sounds we know and blending them together. Thank you for all the positive comments about the Phonics drop in sessions.

Maths

In maths this week we have been focussing on numbers 1 - 10. We have looked at matching the numerals to the Numicon pieces. We have used number lines for support.

Stay and Play

It was our very first Stay and Play session on Monday, it was very well supported and a brilliant start to the week. The dates of all Stay and Play days are on the website on the school calendar and our next one is Tuesday 13th December 9 - 10 am and it will have a very Christmassy feel.

Wellie Walk

On Monday we went on our Wellie Walk around the school grounds looking at our environment and the seasonal changes. We have used the experience to enhance our literacy work throughout the week. The children had a super time and made some brilliant observations.

Next Week

On Thursday 27th October it will be one of our Open Mornings for prospective parents. The parents will have the opportunity to see how your children have settled and how they are working. It is a wonderful experience to see the school, meet Miss Fairweather and the Early Years Team. We thoroughly enjoy being able to show how our Foundation Unit works.

Our phonemes next week will be **ff**, **l**, **ll**, **ss**. 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" - **no** and **go**. 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. We will introduce the high frequency words **and**, **is**, **at** and **it**. In maths we will be looking at the concept of ordering by length and by height. We will keep the sessions very practical for the children and use the mathematical language associated with this.

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.

P.E Kits

We will be sending PE kits home on Monday afternoon before the half term break. They need to be returned on Monday 7th November. Please check all kits have names clearly marked and that you have a spare pair of underwear included.

Homework

Please continue with reading each night. It has a beneficial effect on the progress of your child's reading. We appreciate that the children are often tired and can be reluctant to read in the evening. If you are having problems listening to your child read please let a member of the team know and we can support you with this.

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

Mrs J Dodd

Mrs K Heywood

Mrs Z Richardson