

Newsletter 25 May 2017

Mystery Reader

Being a mystery reader is proving to be extremely popular. The children are really enjoying listening to their friends read to them and it is wonderful to see how confident they have become and how good they are at reading. If your child wishes to be a mystery reader, then practice a short favourite story at home with them and if you wish to be there when they read please speak to Mrs Dodd to confirm the date.

Our Learning this Week

In phonics both groups have been reviewing our existing sounds, tricky words and high frequency words each session. Mrs Heywood/Mrs Richardson's group have been developing their understanding of CVCC words (consonant, vowel, consonant, consonant). They have been looking at polysyllabic words and incorporating them into their sentence work. Mrs Dodd's group have worked on CVCC words within Phase 4 and developed our sentence work ensuring correct letter formation. In our maths sessions we have been "dividing" or sharing. The children are aware of the concept of sharing but we focussed on ensuring that the sharing was equal and fair. In our small groups we worked together to share some delicious biscuits equally; the children thoroughly enjoyed the activity especially as they got to eat the biscuits for snack time afterwards. We found out lots of interesting facts about Pirates this week too.

Transition

Our transition stage will begin on our return to school on Monday 5 June. Over the course of the half term the children will be given many opportunities to visit Year 1, see the classrooms, meet their new teachers and enable the children to be fully prepared when starting Year 1 in September. We will begin with the children being encouraged to come into school **independently** and organising their coats, reading books and bags. We understand that for some children this may be a little daunting initially, but as the next stage in their journey through school we would appreciate you spending some time over the holidays talking to your children about this process and we will be there as a team to support them each day.

Illness in School

We appear to have some awful "stomach bugs" in our Early Years classes at the moment. As a team we encourage the children to wash their hands after visiting the toilets. However, if your child has been unwell before school or sent home from school with sickness or an upset stomach then our code of practice is to stay away from school for 48 hours to ensure that they are fully well on their return to school. Most children are still not ready to return to school until they are able to eat and drink as normal.

Junk Modelling Materials

Thank you for the boxes and tubes that have been coming into school this week. The children have been very creative and made some adventurous models. Please continue to bring them into school as we will always need the materials replacing.

Lego Cards

Some children have been bringing the new Lego cards into school. This has caused some children to become upset when they lose or "swap" cards and do not fully understand when they cannot

find them or get them back from other children. They are exciting and a great opportunity to be part of playtimes with older children but we would be grateful if you would talk to your children about whether they want to take them with them to school at all.

Twitter

Early Years are regularly tweeting "snapshots" of our day and exciting times and achievements. Please look as we are always super proud of our children and this is an excellent way for you to share this with us.

After the Holidays

As the weather continues to improve, can we ask that you send your child with their water bottle, suntan lotion already applied before school and with a sun hat to wear please.

PE will be on Monday 5 June and therefore PE kits will need to be in school. Please ensure that there is a change of underwear in the bags and that pumps still fit.

Both phonics group will be continuing with their sentence work and we will reinforce letter formation. This was a key finding of the assessment task and we will work with the children to remind them of where to start their letters. The writer's tool kit is what the children use to prompt a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop in their work. Mrs Heywood/Mrs Richardson's group will continue to look at CVCC (consonant, vowel, consonant, consonant) words, letter formation and handwriting and sentence work. They will look at polysyllabic words and apply them in their phonics work. Mrs Dodd's group will continue to work on CVCC words within Phase 4; we will incorporate these words in our writing.

On Tuesday 6 June we have a moderation team from the Local Education Authority Early Years Team spending some time with us. This is normal practice and a samples of work will be viewed and ensure that we are following education guidelines. We love to show people our children's work and their learning journeys and "showcase" how well the children are working. As we will be out of the classroom most of the morning, there will be familiar supply teachers to greet the children.

Have a fabulous half term break. We look forward to seeing all the fun adventures on Tapestry. We will see you all on Monday 5 June.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 25 May - Monday 5 June Half Term holidays

Friday 9 June Celebration Assembly 2.45 pm

Monday 26 June - Friday 30 June SRE week

Wednesday 12 June KS1 Sports Day 9.30 - 11.30 (weather permitting)

Monday 17 July Celebration Assembly followed by Stay and Play Teddy Bears Picnic

Mrs J Dodd

Mrs K Heywood

Mrs Z Richardson