

Early Years Newsletter 29th September 2017

We held our meet the teacher meeting on Thursday this week and thank you to everyone who could attend. We shared information about phonics, maths and our electronic learning journal – Tapestry. You will be sent a password via email to activate the journal. Once you have received this, it must be used within 24 hours or it will be void. Once you have received the password you will be able to view your child at work and add observations which will feed into their learning journey and enhance their learning. If you have any problems, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the team.

Northwich Guardian

On Monday the Northwich Guardian came into school and took photographs of both Early Years classes for their supplement “The class of 2017”. Once all local schools have been photographed, they will inform school as to the date of publication.

Our Learning this Week

In phonics this week, we have learnt the sounds d, g and o. We have been working with the children on using the existing sounds we know and blending them together to make simple CVC words (consonant, vowel, and consonant) such as cat, tap, got. This can be quite tricky initially and we will continue to work with the children each day within the phonics session to develop this skill and their confidence. In our Maths lessons, we have been using the Numicon resource looking at different ways to make a variety of numbers. The children have developed a lot of confidence in the short time we have been in school and it is delightful to see.

We have spent some time with the children looking at the school environment to familiarise them with their new setting. We have met different members of the school team and talked about their role. We have shared with them our expectations of behaviour and care of the school equipment.

Thank you so much for the lovely homework on 2D shapes when you have been out as families. The children love to share their work with their peers. The homework is always on the newsletter on Friday and will be shared on the following Friday.

MacMillan Cancer Awareness Day

Thank you for all the wonderful cake donations that came into school today, the whole day was an overwhelming success. Thank you for your support raising awareness and funds for a worthwhile charity.

Mystery Reader

If you would like to be a “Mystery Reader” for our children, we would love to talk to you. As a parent/grandparent, you arrive at school with a favourite story to share with the children. As a “Mystery Reader”, we ask that it is a secret and it is a wonderful surprise for the children at the end

of the day when you appear. Please speak to a member of the team to arrange a convenient time for your visit.

Next Week

Open Mornings – 3rd and 12th October at 9.30 am

We will be hosting two open mornings for our new parents for 2018 intake. Please come along if you have children who are starting school next year, it is always a wonderful experience and a chance to see the school and in particular the EY department.

Our learning next week

Our phonemes this week will be m, k and ck. 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. In maths, we will look at 2D shapes, extending their knowledge of a wider variety of shapes and progress through the week on to 3D shapes. We will look at their properties, sort them and look for them in our environment. We will spend some time this week writing the children's first names. We will use a name card as a prompt to support their learning and focus on letter recognition and letter formation and correct pencil grip.

Talk for Writing

As a whole school, we are a "Talk for Writing School". We select a text; this can be a story, poem or rhyme and allow the children to experience a variety of genres. Through this text, we build the children's confidence to learn the story, draw a story map and develop their own style of writing their own story with confidence. We will begin with the story of "The Gingerbread Man" and spend this week learning the story with a series of actions. We will be making our own gingerbread men too which will be sent home to eat.

Homework

As the seasons are definitely changing now – autumn has arrived. We would like you to spend some time with your children collecting autumn leaves, conkers, acorns and sycamore leaves, pinecones and beechnuts for our investigation table. The children have noticed the leaves changing colours in our garden and it would develop their learning further. We will encourage the children to handle and sort the autumn collection independently as a challenge task. We will encourage the children to use the "junk modelling" area this week and we look forward to the children making some super models that will be sent home during the week.

Have a great weekend.

Mrs J Dodd, Mrs S Morton, Mrs Z Richardson