

## Early Years Newsletter 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017

### Reading

The children have had their first experience of reading with a member of our team this week and will be bringing home a reading book appropriate to their ability today. This will be in their book bags and it will be accompanied by a reading diary. We ask that you listen to your child read at least 3 times a week and record their progress in their reading diary. We will read with the children individually next week and we will record our comments in green for you to see. On Monday the children will be able to begin changing their reading books every morning. The reading books will be situated in Mrs Morton/Mrs Richardson's classroom and a member of the team will be there to support the children with this new experience. You will be able to change reading books every morning if needed and a new routine will be established. Please remember that you have the opportunity to make reading a really positive experience at home, the books are appropriate to where their phonic awareness is and we as a team will teach the children new skills in order to develop further.

### 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 ordering and 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 12<sup>th</sup> December 9am - 9.45 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

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.

**Parent/Teacher Consultations**

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October we will be holding our Parent/Teacher consultations. The sign-up sheets are in the main entrance hall. If you have any problems, please do not hesitate to contact our office team.

**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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 at various times in the evening and 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.

**School Closure**

A reminder that school will be closed on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October. We will return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November after the half term break.

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

**Mrs J Dodd**

**Mrs S Morton**

**Mrs Z Richardson**