

Early Years Newsletter 24th November 2017

Phonics

In phonics this week we have looked at the new sounds **y** and **z**. This is the start of Phase 3 letters and sounds. We are reviewing the tricky words **I**, **to**, **no**, **go**, and **the** each day. We have introduced the high frequency words **and**, **is**, **at**, **it**, **in**. We have been working with the children on using the existing sounds we know and blending them together, listening for initial sounds in words and attempting to write them. The children are very confident at recognising the sounds and tricky words each day which is wonderful. We are working on writing cvc words daily and the children are showing great confidence.

Phonics Assessment

We have completed our first phonics assessment on Phase 2 phonemes and tricky words. The children were shown the letter or word and asked to identify them. You will find a sheet in your child's school bag indicating the sounds and tricky words they knew or need more support with. We ask that you re-enforce these at home. If we have noticed that they are not using the "pure" sounds then this means they are not quite pronouncing it correctly. Please speak to us if you need any clarification of this. This will also be addressed within our phonics session. We will continue to review all phonemes daily in both small and large groups.

Maths

In our maths sessions we have looked at money focussing on coin recognition and counting with money in our large and small group sessions. The homework on Tapestry was brilliant this week and it was lovely to share with the children. Thank you very much.

P.E.

Our P.E. sessions are on Monday morning. Please ensure that your child has a full PE kit in school, this should include a spare pair of underwear, for all children with long hair we ask that their hair is tied back to ensure safety.

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.

Christmas Fair - Friday 8th December 5.30pm

An early reminder about our fast approaching Christmas Fair in school. It is a super start to the festive season for our families. If you would like to help this year, please express your interest to Mrs Dodd.

Parents as Partners

Thank you for the forms that have now all been returned, I will collate all the suggestions and comments ready for next week's newsletter.

Illness/Absence from School Policy

If your child is sick or has an upset stomach then school policy, in line with Cheshire West and Chester guidelines, recommends that children should remain at home for 48 hours from the last time of vomiting. We adhere to this to ensure that our children are well enough for school upon return and it also reduces the risk of infecting other children. We do understand this can be tricky when you are working but we are sure that you understand that we need to prevent the spread of the illness. Thank you for your continued support.

Next Week

Our learning next week

Our new phoneme next week will be **q, qu, zz, ch**. We will focus on the actions associated with this letter sounds (we follow Jolly Phonics) and have a variety of games and activities to support this. We will review all our "tricky words" **I, to, no, go, and the**. A "tricky word" is a word that you cannot phonetically segment and blend, you just have to know it by sight. We will start to write our tricky words **the, to, I, no, and go**. We will review the high frequency words **and, is, at and it**. We will introduce the new tricky words **we, me, be**. In maths will begin looking at one less and how the number gets smaller when you take one away. The activities in our maths sessions are very practical and engaging to focus our learning. We will continue to use RM maths each day and the children are already fully engaged with this. A member of the team will continue to support them each day. They are really enjoying the experience each day.

Talk for Writing

As a school we use "Talk for Writing" as a guide for our writing sessions. It is an excellent way for the children to build ideas/information prior to writing which will develop their confidence to write their own sentences/stories independently. We have been using non-fiction texts this half term and finding information about nocturnal animals. The children will be writing some interesting facts on foxes, owls or bats using their phonic knowledge next week.

On **Wednesday 29th November** we ask that you send the children in with their PJs and slippers, in a named carrier bag, to wear at the afternoon Show and Tell session. We will act like cosy hibernating animals for this session. We will send the children home in their PJs unless otherwise asked and send the school uniform home in their named carrier bag.

Homework

As we have been fact finding about nocturnal animals in class, we would like you to choose one nocturnal animal and draw a picture of it on A4 piece of paper and send it in for show and tell on Friday. Please let the children have a go themselves and we can put this piece of work on their celebration wall in the classroom. If you have any interesting facts to share we look forward to hearing all about them. Show and Tell will be on Wednesday afternoon instead of Friday.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs J Dodd

Mrs S Morton

Mrs Z Richardson

Dates for Autumn 2

Friday 1st December - Non Uniform day (donations for Christmas Fair)

Friday 8th December 5.30 pm PTA Christmas Fair

Tuesday 12th December 9am - 10.15 am EY Christmas Celebration Assembly

Wednesday 13th December Whole School Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 20th December KS1 and EY Christmas Party

Thursday 21st December End of Term until Monday 8th January

Friday 22nd December - INSET SCHOOL CLOSED