

Early Years Newsletter 2nd March 2018

Welcome back after a lovely half term break. This half term is known as Spring 2, and will have the theme of "changes". This will cover changes in the seasons from Winter to Spring, changes in the environment including new plants and new life we can see around us, and how the weather changes. There are already lots of shoots, buds and new plants starting to show in our garden area and we will start to enhance our wildlife garden now, which will encourage lots of birds and insects to visit throughout the year.

Our Learning this Week

We started the week with our new phonics groups and the children have been brilliant adapting to the changes. Thank you for all your support with the new groups and talking to your child prior to starting back at school. Both classes have been reviewing existing sounds and tricky words, focussing on correct letter formation and sentence structure. Mrs Morton/Mrs Richardson's group have been looking at CVCC words. In our maths sessions, we have been looking at teen numbers and using our Numicon as a resource.

New Classroom Layout

You may have noticed that both classrooms have changed over the half term break. We are constantly changing our learning environment to link to the needs of the children and their ever-changing interests. We are delighted with the changes and the children have loved exploring the new areas.

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.

World Book Day

We had a fantastic day celebrating the love of books by dressing up as our favourite book characters. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In the children's book bags, there was a £1 book token to use towards a new book. You will be able to use the token at our "book fair" on Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th March after school.

Next Week

In phonics, we will all review our existing sounds, tricky words and high frequency words each session. Mrs Morton/Mrs Richardson's group will look at CVCC (consonant, vowel, consonant, consonant), words which use the letter sounds that were learnt in Phase 2 and Phase 3. They will look at the tricky words **come** and **some**. Mrs Dodd's group will continue to work in Phase 3 we will work on the diagraphs **ur** and **ow** and the high frequency words then, them, see and for and we will incorporate this in our sentence work each day. In maths, we will look at numbers 1 - 20.

We will use the Numicon to support our learning. Moving through the week to doubling, halving and number sentences.

Twitter

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

Reading

All the children have now been benchmarked using a system that ensures that the children apply their phonic knowledge to de-code unfamiliar words and recognise their tricky words in the text. We look for fluency and comprehension with the text by asking appropriate questions at the end of the reading session. There will be a sticker in the reading diary stating which level reading book your child will chose each morning. Please ensure that your child is reading the correct level. As a team, we will continue to support the children with this. It is so important that the children feel confident reading at home. In our reading sessions, we are teaching the children to apply strategies at a higher level.

Homework

As we have had World Book Day this week, we would like you to share some of your favourite stories together. We would like you to share the reason why your child likes the book and note these comments on Tapestry. The children really enjoy sharing their homework at the end of the week and we appreciate your support.

Dates for your diary

Monday 12th - Friday 16th March - National Science Week

Monday 12th - Tuesday 13th March Book Fair in the small hall at 3.20pm

Wednesday 21st - Thursday 22nd March - Parents Evenings

Thursday 22nd March - Stay and Play - 4

Thursday 29th March - End of Term. Return Monday 16th April

Friday 4th May - Celebration Assembly 2.45pm main hall.

Have a great weekend.

Mrs J Dodd

Mrs S Morton

Mrs Z Richardson