

Early Years Newsletter 16th March 2018

Our Learning this Week

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, letter formation and have transferred their work into their new lined writing books and it looks very smart. Mrs Dodd's group have been reviewing existing digraphs **oi** and **ur** looking at specific words and applying them in our sentence work. In our maths sessions, we have been weighing and comparing objects. We have used the weighing scales to compare heavy and light objects, and then used multi-link cubes to see how many cubes are needed to balance the scales accurately. The children loved being practical both in taught sessions and in small groups.

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. It has been one of our challenges this week to create a model and then explain how it was made. Please continue to bring them into school, as we will always need the materials replacing.

Phonics Workshops Thursday 22nd - Friday 23rd March 9.00 am.

We will be offering an opportunity for you to come into school and see your child working in their new phonics groups. We will be running the sessions on the above dates and there will be a sign up sheet in the "porch" to indicate the day you wish to attend. You only need to attend one of the sessions and as one of them is on the Stay and Play day we will extend stay and play by 15 minutes.

National Science Week

The theme for this year was "Changes" and the children have spent all week doing small experiments. We have put the experiments on Twitter every day. The children have been fascinated and having specific weeks like this enables staff and children to participate and learn together. A big thank you to Megan Lawrenson's dad who is a Paramedic and organised for Early Years and Key Stage 1 to find out all about their work and how brilliant they are.

Book Fair

Thank you to all our families who supported the Scholastic Book fair this week, the books on sale were fantastic and the children seemed very excited to take them home to share.

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, letter formation and handwriting and sentence work. Mrs Dodd's group will work on the tri-graph **ear** and we will incorporate this in our sentence work each day. In maths, we will focus on numbers and counting accurately and reliably. We will work on the formation of teen numbers, which is a

concept that some children still find tricky, halving and doubling numbers. We will use Numicon to support our learning and to ensure the children are accurate when counting.

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.

Parent/Teacher Consultations - Wednesday 21st - Thursday 22nd March

Please ensure that you have an appointment to talk to your child's teacher. The office team will be able to support you with this. We will share information about your child and how they have developed their individual learning skills, the progress that they have made, and as we move rather quickly to the Summer Term, how we can support the children with the move to Year 1. This is known as transition and as a "partnership" we can ensure that this is smooth and exciting.

Stay and Play Thursday 22nd March 8.45 am - 10.15 am

This will be our fourth stay and play and it will have a "Spring" theme. There will be many activities for you to share with your child and there will be time at the end of the session to share some lovely books. As we are running one of our phonics workshops on that day, we have extended the session slightly.

Guided Reading

We will be doing guided reading with your child this week. We work with your child on a higher level of reading book than they bring home each evening. We are able to incorporate the phonics sessions and then apply their learning at the end with a specific task, which enables us to ascertain their understanding. You can support your child at home by reading with them as often as possible, we suggest that 3 times a week is a good start but we do appreciate that it is not always possible as they can be tired or have activities after school. Remember each time you read with your child, put a comment in the reading diary and we can use this when assessing their reading. If you are having any problems with reading please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the team.

Homework

To support and enhance our learning with weight and the language associated with this, we would like you to share household items that are used for weighing; scales in the bathroom, kitchen, at the gym, at the supermarket and the market. Talk to your child about using the mathematical language of heavier/lighter, equal, balanced, more or less.

On Saturday, it will be St Patrick's Day and there are local and national celebrations over the weekend. If you are visiting or celebrating at any events, please put these on Tapestry, as they will show how people celebrate different events.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 21st - Thursday 22nd March - Parents Evenings

Thursday 22nd March - Stay and Play - 4

Thursday 22nd - Friday 23rd March - Phonics Workshops 9.00 am - 9.30 am

Monday 26th - Thursday 29th March - Whole School Interfaith Week

Wednesday 28th March - Easter themed lunch

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

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

Have a great weekend.

Mrs J Dodd

Mrs S Morton

Mrs Z Richardson