

Early Years Newsletter 19th October 2018

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 Richardson/Mrs Gatiss'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. Please only take one book each time.

Phonics

Phonics this week has included the sounds h, b and f and reviewing the tricky words **I**, **the** and **to**. We have been working with the children on using the existing sounds we know and blending them together.

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. We have also begun to combine 2 pieces of Numicon and add them together.

Tapestry

You will all have been sent a code to allow you to join and access Tapestry; our on-line learning journey. This is an excellent way to see your child in their learning and for you to add to this when you are at home, doing homework and also special times as a family. We will always share observations in our Show and Tell sessions on Friday afternoon. If you have not received a code, please let me know and I will be able to re-send this.

Homework

Any homework is always at the end of the Early Years newsletter. It is due into school on Friday ready for our "Show and Tell" homework session on the Friday afternoon. Please put all homework if it is on paper into the green homework box which is in the bay area of the Early Years department. We are encouraging the children to be independent and do this themselves each week, however we appreciate they do need some 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 11th December 9.00am - 9.45am and it will have a very Christmassy feel.

Forest Schools

The children had a fantastic time in their Forest school session with Mr Hadfield. They looked at the environment and how to care for living things.

Next Week

Atlas of Adventures

Next week we will be working as a whole school and focussing on Geography as a subject. All classes have chosen a specific country and will spend the week finding out facts about culture, the land, the food, language and looking at where in the world it is in relation to Hartford Northwich. Our Early Years children will be learning all about Australia. We will look at the country and its location, foods, animals and look at any art work connected to the country.

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. When there are 2 letters together representing one sound we refer to them as a "digraph", the children are very familiar with this word too. We will introduce 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 7th November and Thursday 8th November it will be our Parent/Teacher consultations. Your appointment can be booked via our School Spider communication platform for parents, as advised in our recent letter.

Details of your login will be set out shortly, then you will be able to login via our website by selecting the parent login to book your appointment times. We offer an afternoon session and a later session to suit our families.

P.E Kits

We will be sending PE kits home on Friday afternoon before the half term break. They need to be returned on Monday 5th November. Please check all kits have names clearly marked and that you have a spare pair of underwear included.

Homework

To support our whole school Geography week, we would like you to look at Australia in books or on the computer. What can you find out and share with us? You can put the work on Tapestry and we will share this with the children for the first time. When you share an observation we are always interested in the dialogue that has taken place to determine understanding and enjoyment.

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

Mrs J Dodd

Mrs D Gatiss

Mrs Z Richardson