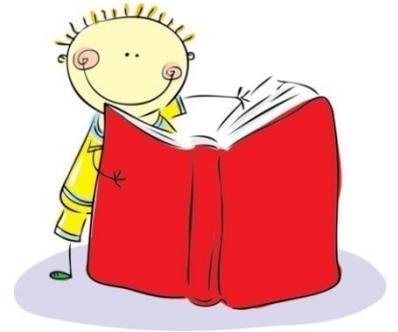


# Reception Newsletter

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017

It has been another great week in Reception! The children are well and truly settled and have fully embraced their new school and new routines. It has been lovely having parents come into class this week and observe some of our phonics sessions. I really hope the sessions have been/will be helpful and a good insight into how we teach phonics in Reception at our school. The children have loved having so many visitors! We look forward to seeing more parents next week.



I hope the phonics evening was useful too, thank you for coming. I have provided parents who were not able to attend Wednesday's Phonics Information Evening with the same handouts I gave out on the night. There is a phonics guide, handwriting guide and a list of High Frequency Words (HFW). This gives a little insight into how we teach phonics and handwriting. The children have not been introduced to all the sounds yet, but the list includes all the sounds the children will learn throughout the year.

In phonics this week we have been revising sounds already learnt and have practised forming letters, in particular: - b and h. The children have been creating words with three sounds using letter cards and a phoneme frame to support them with their blending skills. They have been making words using some of the letters already learnt this term such as sack, miss, kiss, map, tin, tap etc.

Many parents have asked about the 'Learning Ladders' we have in our classroom and what the children do to climb up them. We talk to the children about each ladder:- collaborating, having a go at something new, being attentive, sharing ideas, problem solving and persevering. Then we look for the children demonstrating those learning skills (mainly during Child Initiated Activities) and then move them up the ladder. When they reach the top they receive a rosette and can then move onto a different ladder to try and earn a rosette. The children fully understand them now and use the correct vocabulary regularly with us in class.

In our maths sessions this week the children have focused on counting up to and past 20. We have also been looking at symmetry. The children created symmetrical patterns using their bodies and objects.

The children loved a dance session which involved them pretending to be volcanoes this week. They enjoyed listening to the emotive music and moving their bodies in different ways to represent the volcano erupting. We have so many fantastic dancers!

Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to look after the chickens during half term break. I would like to invite parents in on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October** after

school to find out about how we clean them out, feed them etc. Thank you so much for your support with this!

Thank you for all the lovely harvest gifts which were brought into school last week, you are all very generous! The children enjoyed their first Harvest Service at school and have started to join in singing some of our hymns. It was absolutely lovely.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Thanks for your support.

Miss Dale