



Year R Class Newsletter

Friday 23rd November 2018

Believe Grow Achieve

Dear Parents

What a fantastic few weeks we have had. Excitingly, after missing out on seeing them last week due to a call out, we had visit from our local fire engine from Southam. The children were very keen to see all the tools and functions of the fire engine and it has since stimulated some fantastic writing and role play. Today we are looking forward to a visit from Mrs Brown who is coming to school to talk to us about her role as a nurse - thank you very much! The children have been highly involved in our hospital role play and we are looking forward to learning even more.

Phonics

We are delighted with how well the children are doing with their phonics.

Mrs West and Mrs Field's group have been recapping the sounds learnt so far and they are doing brilliantly at remembering them. Children should keep practising sounds in their phonics folders at home but won't get any new ones at the moment. We are learning to put the sounds in words together to blend orally and on word cards.

Mrs Faulkner's group are now ready to start reading phrases and sentences using their sounds. Soon they will start bringing home ditties. Ditties are short texts without punctuation that support children to quickly apply their sounds. At first they will be black and white and soon they will move to books containing 3 short 'stories'. The children will have read the ditties in school so we hope when they come home they should be able to read them fluently to you! Our aim is for the children to be speedy readers - recognising words they know instantly which is why we practise them a few times.

Using our Sounds to Write

We are all now working on using our sounds to write words using our Fred Fingers. To do this, children use their non-dominant hand to put up the right number of sounds for the word and squeeze their sounds on to their fingers e.g. cat = 3 fingers = c-a-t, tent = 4 fingers = t-e-n-t. It is very important that the children do not use their writing hand for this, as this is a strategy they will need to use while writing. They should also squeeze the sounds on to their fingers from left to right. They can practise this skill anywhere and it doesn't need to be before they write but the more fluent they are at doing it the easier they will find writing words.

Maths

The children are getting on fantastically with their maths learning this half term and are becoming confident in reciting their doubles and halves and are becoming increasingly confident in recognising numbers over 10. Last week we learnt our first addition fact, $3+4=7$. Please help your child to remember this fact just like they remember the creepy crawly words. Building up a bank of known number facts helps children to become quick and competent mathematicians in the future. We have also been exploring capacity and investigating which containers hold the most or least by pouring from one to another and counting how many cups' worth fit in. We found out that the smaller containers overflowed when we tried to fill them up with water from a larger container.

Junk

Next week, we will learning how to design and make using junk modelling. We would be very grateful for donations of small boxes and bottles tops.

We are still looking for 2L bottles, ideally the fizzy drink bottles as they are stronger. We are hoping to fill them with water and use them for physical development outside as they will be heavy.

Did You Know...? Slips

Thank you for all the wonderful 'Did you know...?' slips that you have been sending in. We love sharing them with the whole class and the children are delighted to get a whoosh with the magic wand when we read them out! After we have read them out, they take pride of place in the children's learning journeys. This week we would like you to share what your child can do at home with technology.

Christmas

All children have now chosen their parts and have begun learning songs and dances. They are very excited! Today your child will come home with a costume letter. Please provide costumes in a named bag by Monday 3rd December. Details about tickets for the forthcoming performances are in this week's school newsletter.

Lost

Please ensure all clothes are named so that we can return lost items. Please also ensure your child hasn't accidentally picked up anyone else's jumpers as a few children's items, with names in, have gone missing.

If you have any questions about any aspects of this letter or about any aspect of school please do not hesitate to get in touch with either of us via e-mail west.a@welearn365.com and field.n@welearn365.com

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs West and Mrs Field