



Year R Class Newsletter

Friday 4th December

Believe Grow Achieve

Dear Parents

Wow - we are at the end of week 5. Only 2 weeks to go till Christmas. Our rehearsals for the Christmas Performance are now in full swing and children will be practising their part. We have been talking about what this experience will be like, thinking about how we feel about dressing up, dancing and performing on a stage. This is going to be very different this year, but being videoed and being able to watch themselves back might be quite exciting! It's great to talk to your child about how they are feeling and offer support and encouragement.

Please could Nativity costumes be brought into school by Friday 11th December. Thank you.

Phonics

Over the last few weeks, we have all been reviewing our Set 1 sounds to become even quicker at recognising them. Many are now ready to begin learning the special friends - these are the sounds where two letters make one sound (sh, ch, th, qu, ng, nk,). Please continue to help your child spot them in books you read and also by re-reading the phonics sheets sent home.

Now the children can record many sounds independently they are becoming increasingly keen to get writing! At first this may look like a few squiggles or random sounds on a page. You can support your child in developing their writing by encouraging them to talk about what they have written and give meaning to their marks. At this stage, children love to write lists, cards and signs. They will soon begin to use initial sounds e.g. b might mean bread and then short words like mlk (milk), swt (sweets). Don't worry if they don't hear all the sounds or if you cannot read it back – hopefully they will be able to tell you what it says! What's important is they are having a go. Please upload writing at home to Tapestry or send it in for us to read and put in their Learning Journal Folders.

Over the past few weeks we have all really enjoyed getting to know the Nativity story. Reading is a HUGE part of every day in year R and is always inspiring children's play. As children begin to bring home and read their own short stories to you please do not forget the power and importance of shared story time. Exciting texts expand children's experiences, feed their imagination and build listening and language skills. We love hearing about what you read at home and are always seeing the evidence of it in drawings, role play and conversations.

Maths

In maths across the school we are working hard on ensuring children have a secure foundation of knowledge. Children have been working hard on their Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) to support this. The first challenge being recognising and ordering numbers to 10 (advent calendars really help with this!) and many have now moved on to the next set of facts. Keep up the good work.

This learning is reinforced in our everyday maths session and through our play. We are now getting better at remembering our doubles facts up to double 5 and beginning to learn halves of even numbers up to 10. We aren't quite ready for instant recall of halves, but children are doing really well at understanding this new concept.

We are busy too, planning a Parent Information Maths session over Google Meet for the new year!

Vocabulary Challenge

most least

Alongside this we are introducing words to support your children in developing their understanding of a wide range of concepts. In maths we have been learning to use most and least. Children now need to practise using these words out and about in the real world to ensure they understand them. Please let us know if you hear your child using them or perhaps you can help them practise using them whilst playing or as part of your every day. Let us know how you get on with a 'Did you know?'

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 Tapestry, learning log or e-mail admin3308@we-learn.com.

Thank you too, for your support with keeping siblings close to you when coming to school and collecting.

Keep safe,
Mrs Field and Mrs Jefferies