



# Reception Newsflash



Friday 3rd November 2022

## Reception Weekly News

Welcome back, after what has hopefully been a restful and restorative half term holiday for you all. We have been learning about lots of things related to bonfire night this week. Did you know that we celebrate bonfire night because of an event that happened in the past? Well, the children now do as we have been finding out all about Guy Fawkes. We have also been making firework pictures using chalks and pastels and have talked about the fantastic colours and sounds that we see and hear on bonfire night. We have also discussed some safety rules for firework night to ensure that children know the importance of fire safety and how to look after themselves and others.



We have also been exploring things that keep us healthy and learning about what foods we should eat lots of, like fruit and vegetables and some foods that we should eat as a treat, such as chocolate!

Next week in Maths we are going to be focusing on our subitising skills.

**Subitising** is a prerequisite to counting and is a very important skill that all children need to have. An example of subitising is looking at the image on the right and noticing that there are 4 flowers. This is **perceptual subitising** when you instantly recognise the amount without counting. However you also may notice that there are 3 smaller flowers and 1 taller flower this is called **conceptual subitising** where you join 2 groups/ amounts together. We want to develop both these skills with the children so we will be looking at different images and asking children **what can you see and how do you see it?** E.g. I see 4 flowers, I see 3 smaller flowers and 1 taller flower or I see 4 flowers 2 here (circle around the 2 left flowers) and 2 here (circle around the 2 right flowers.) You can help by noticing when you are out and about by looking for where you can see groups of 1s, 2s, 3s and 4s. Look at this plate of peas for example, you can see some groups of 3, 4, 1, 2 etc. Encourage children to subitise all the time! You won't be able to help it!



## HOMWORK CHALLENGE

As we are progressing with phonics in school, please could we ask that the children practice their letter formation at home. It is really important that the children start and finish each letter in the correct place. This will support writing fluency as the children progress through the phonics phases. We have added a letter formation sheet to show where each letter starts and finishes. The graphemes (how each letter looks) that we have been learning to write are s a t p l n m d o g c k.

## Reading books

As you will be aware over the half term holiday the children have been allocated their home reading books on our phonics learning platform "Bug Club". The books that have been allocated are to support the phonemes (sounds) that we have been learning in school. Each week your child will have a book that they have read in their class, alongside another book that matches the phonics phase that we are focusing on. Our expectation is that the children read the new book that has been allocated for a minimum of **three times** per week. If the children can read more than this, it will really support their reading fluency. We ask that the children blend each sound that they see when reading the word, rather than use picture cues or read the whole word. We understand as the children become more familiar with the text, that they will become increasingly fluent. This being so, could we ask that you encourage the children to point to each word as they read. Each time your child reads could we ask that you record it in their reading record as per the information sent home with your child's reading record. New books will be allocated every Friday. Many thanks to the parents/carers who have read over the holiday, especially more than the three times. We can

already see the impact this is having in our lessons. The library books that the children bring home weekly are for you to share as a story – reading to your child at maybe bedtime or another time that is appropriate to your family routine. This **does not need** to be recorded in your child's reading record. **Golden Ticket** will be at the end of term. Children who have read a minimum of 21 times over the half term will have achieved Golden Ticket, and will have a special treat at the end of term. Many thanks for your continued support.

### Forest School

#### **This week it is Class 3's turn in FOREST SCHOOL**

If you are concerned on colder days about your child's warmth, please put another layer in the bag ie thicker socks or a fleece, as it is easy to remove layers once out in the Forest School.

**Forest school sessions take place in the Afternoon** – so please send children into school in their PE kit- (just joggers no shorts) not their **forest school kit**.

Please could all Forest School Kit listed above come in to school in a separate bag, (**pump bag, back pack**) which is **ALL** clearly named. This makes it easier when we are trying to get children changed. Thank you 😊

### Dates for your diaries

**Our Parents Meetings** will be taking place on **Monday the 13<sup>th</sup>** and **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November** from **4.00pm** until **7.00pm** on both evenings. Opportunity to book onto a meeting with your child's class teacher will be available via the school app from today - **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**. If you have not yet booked a meeting, please have a look on the app.

### Housekeeping

- Please could we ask that the children bring **water** to school in a named water bottle each day.
- Could all uniform be clearly named so as to make sure that the children come home with all of their belongings each day. Especially as the winter months creep in, please remember to name hats, gloves etc.
- Please can parents/carers send children a set of named pumps into school. These will be kept safely in your child's peg in the classroom for children to change into when they do PE.

### Weekly Home Learning Challenges

Please see subtitising Homework challenge above.