



Year group: Reception

Date: Friday 29nd September 2017



English

Another busy week in Reception! We have been learning our sounds o, c, k, b and special friends ck. We are writing sounds and words and blending the sounds to read.

Next week we will continue to revisit our sounds and practise our blending skills. We will also look at 'Red Words' (words that are not de-codable by using our sounds) to help with our reading.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

Please support your children to practise saying and writing their sounds at home. Play spot the sound! Look for the new sounds when you are out and about or even on packets and everyday things in your home, it gives purpose to these early reading skills.



Maths

Reception have been counting, ordering and writing our numbers. We have also practised one more and one less, using objects and counters.

We will continue to focus on number formation and number ordering. Also, we will be looking at pattern and size. Using the vocabulary bigger, smaller, taller, shorter and comparing size.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

Please support your children to practise saying and writing their numbers at home. Compare objects and order them according to size. Pose a question, who is the tallest in your family?

Extra information:

The children had their first Computing lesson, using a simple paint program, learning to click and drag. Swimming skills are improving and we have used floats to swim on our backs. Our changing skills are getting better! Finally, thank you for sharing the wonderful family pictures you have sent in, the children have loved talking about them and they are all very proud of their lovely families!



Year group: Year 1

Date: Friday 29th September 2017



English

We have had a fantastic week in English – the children have been great! Look at everything that we have been doing...WOW!

Comprehension: We have been recalling characters from the story ‘Whatever Next’ and using adjectives to describe the characters.

Grammar: We have been joining simple sentences together with ‘and’ or ‘but’, as well as finding examples of ‘contractions’ in our story. e.g. can’t – cannot. We have also been looking at the use of question marks and exclamation marks in the text.

Composition: Children have been composing sentences orally to describe their favourite characters in ‘Whatever Next’. They have then been using adjectives to create sentences about characters in the story.

Spoken language: Children have been talking in partners and as a group and tell them their favourite story they have read over the last two weeks and explain the reasons why that is the best. They have discussed their favourite characters in ‘Whatever Next’ and composed sentences from this.

Word reading and transcription: Children are being taught to apply phonic knowledge and skills with blending and word reading for transcription.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child’s English: Using adjectives to describe everyday objects or characters in their reading books.

Lots of reading and asking them to retell the story in their own words, drawing pictures or by acting out.



Maths

Like English, year 1 have had a busy learning week in Maths. We have been learning lots of new number skills. These included:

Focus: Money and Time/Measures

- Practising our 2, and 5 times tables
- Looking and understanding the value of 1p, 2p, 5p, 10, 20p, and 50p coins
- Adding together 1p, 2p and 5p coins
- Making amounts up to 10p and 20p
- Telling the time to the hour on our classroom clocks
- Working with a partner to tell the time to the hour on classroom clocks
- Ordering the days of the week

Suggestions of ways you can support your child’s Maths: Using your clock at home to play ‘What’s the time Mr Wolf?’ when the time is on the hour. Counting 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins.

Counting objects/items around your house.

Extra information:

Our Science topic is Everyday Materials. We have been learning about:

- Different materials
- Defining the difference between an object and the material it is made from.
- Describing the properties of everyday materials



Year group: Year 2

Date: Friday 29th September 2017



English

We have had another exciting week this week in Year 2. We had a fantastic visit to Cudmore Grove which helped us to learn more about the seaside and put our imaginations to the test creating amazing sandcastle homes for sea animals! This week we have been practising our new spelling pattern – spelling the phoneme /s/ with ‘ce’, ‘ci’ and ‘cy’ and we made a start on our animal booklets. We have read the fable ‘The Hare and the Tortoise’ and written a conversation between the Hare and the Tortoise at the end of the race. We are continuing to think about using the correct punctuation and joined handwriting in all of our work.

Next week we will continue to work on our animal information booklets plus we will be discussing morals from a range of fables, using adjectives to write expanded noun phrases, creating compound sentences and creating story maps in preparation for writing our own fables the following week.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child’s English:

Use the Purple Mash website (details in homework this week) to help practise the spelling pattern. Encourage your child to put the word into a sentence to check they understand the meaning of the words they are learning. Ask your child ‘unseen’ words which follow the same pattern to help them to apply their learning.



Maths

This week, Year 2 have carried out lots of practical activities to learn about capacity. We have also compared a number of objects using $<$ $>$ $=$ and investigated whether given mathematical statements are ‘True or False’ using concrete resources.

Next week we will constructing and interpreting bar charts, answering questions about data, using number facts to solve problems and carrying out mathematical investigations using place value.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child’s Maths:

We have used TopMarks – Sequencing numbers to practise counting on from 2 or 5 from any number.

Extra information:

In Geography we are learning about the features of the seaside and their uses. Help your child to find out more about these for next week.



Year group: Year 3

Date: Friday 29th September 2017



English

The children have worked hard with time conjunctions this week. They began by identifying examples and constructing sentences using given conjunctions. As a follow up to their trip to Cressing the children have planned and written a recount of their adventures using time conjunctions to show the passing of the day. Homework this weekend is to apply their knowledge by writing an account of a morning at school starting each new paragraph with a time conjunction. Our Literacy focus next week is all about the structure of a story and how to balance this. In writing they will be:

- Using 'story-pegs' on which they hang the different parts of a story
- Write their own version of a given story making changes of their choice
- Using a variety of sentence forms

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

Read through their homework with them identifying a range of time conjunctions. Remind them that they should be using cursive handwriting more and more (if not already doing so). Some printing is acceptable but letter shapes should be uniform.



Maths

Year 3 have been busy learning all about mental addition and subtraction using number facts this week in Maths. They have:

- Counted on to subtract (this was challenging but is key to efficient mental methods)
- Used known number facts to add across tens and hundreds

Next week we will be:

- Investigating multiplication and related division facts for times tables including 4x and 8x
- Solving problems involving multiplication and division

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

Many children did not know measurement facts such as 'How many metres in a kilometre?' in this week's mental maths quiz. Please practice these facts regularly. Play counting games involving times tables. Counting on and back in fours this week was a challenge for many.

Extra information:

Year 3 had a superb Stone Age to Iron Age experience at Cressing this week. The children were well-behaved and attentive and were fully focussed on new learning from Hilary. It was a whistle stop tour through many thousands of years and will certainly add to the classroom sessions about this fascinating subject. We still have some incomplete PE kits. All children should have long sleeve tops and socks for the Autumn term. We also have unnamed items. Please check your child's PE kit.



Year group: Year 4

Date: Friday 29th September 2017



English

We are continuing our book study of 'Street Child by Berlie Doherty'

- We worked extremely hard on a historically based diary entry from the viewpoint of a person within the workhouse. We had to complete our own research to ensure we were remaining true to the Historical evidence.
- we understood how to use a variety of sentence starters to keep our audience engaged in our longer writing pieces
- understanding what a determiner is and its use within a sentence.
- focusing on the prefix of 'ir-' and 'il-', what it means and how it is used in this weekend's spellings

Next week, we will be continuing on with our class text 'Street Child' and we will be exploring the dramatic change in the main characters life as he leaves the walls of the workhouse. We will be working hard to understand how the character will be feeling and how his characteristics have changed throughout the text so far.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

Encourage your child to use adjectives when writing and to be as descriptive as possible. Additionally, support their reading with verbal comprehension - how has this character changed? How do they feel? What do you think will happen next? Ask them to identify a determiner within a sentence. Can they explain the terminology to you?



Maths

This week we have all worked hard on some mental methods to add two 2-digit numbers and 3-digit numbers. Next week we will be moving onto a more formal method of addition and subtraction

- Using the column method to add and subtract two and more 2-digit and 3-digit numbers together
- Using a written method to add numbers which will bridge the 100s and 1000s
- Learning to think carefully about our choice of method to increase speed in solving problems
- Using written methods to solve multi-step word problems

Next week we will be moving onto understanding how to multiply and divide using a written method.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

We would really appreciate it if you could find some time to continue to practise rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100 (even 5-digit, 6-digit numbers) and practise times tables with your child. Also ask them to tell you their own methods to solve addition and subtraction calculations.

Extra information:

Linking with our RE topic, please can you encourage your child to consider the things that are of importance to them and send in a cereal box (or a4 size box) and small photographs or images from catalogues in order for them to create their own personal 'shrine' of things that are important to themselves next week . Thank you



Year group: Year 5

Date: Friday 29th September 2017



English

Class reading book – Holes: We read aloud in groups and individually.

Lady of Shalott – Poetry.

Comprehension: We are continuing to learn how to answer questions on a text giving evidence for our answers.

Grammar: We have looked at how to use adverbial phrases and fronted adverbials in sentences. We have also been looking at how to use brackets in our writing.

Composition. We have been looking at the effective way figurative language can add interest to our writing.

Next week we hope to start work on Newspaper articles.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

Lots of reading and asking them to retell the story in their own words, drawing pictures or by acting out.



Maths

In maths this week we have been finding factors, prime numbers, composite numbers, and prime factors.

We have reinforced our understanding of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, 1000 and used our knowledge to start solving problems.

We have also started to explore the way negative numbers are used in the 'real world' and will continue with this next week.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

Continue to revise multiplication tables and ensure homework is completed to the best of your child's ability.

Extra information:

In Science we have been looking at some of the properties of solids, liquids and gasses

In RE we have found out that the Bible is not just one book.



Year group: Year 6

Date: Friday 29th September 2017



English

We have had an exciting week in the continuation of our 'Macbeth' unit and following on from our visit to 'The Globe', where we watched a one-man rendition of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and were treated to a tour of 'The Globe' and a drama workshop based upon 'Macbeth'. This week, in English, we have been focussing upon:

- writing about Shakespeare's 'Lost Years' as a sub-section of his biography;
- analysing a topical newspaper article entitled 'Superbugs: Fighting Back' – inferring and justifying information with supporting evidence from the text;
- participating in a drama workshop about 'Macbeth', during an exciting visitation from 'The Young Shakespeare Company', who brought the play alive and immersed the children in the theme of unchecked ambition that brings about destruction.

Next week, the children will be combining all the skills they have learnt to complete their biographies. In our grammar lesson, we will be exploring the use of semi-colons, colons and dashes.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's English:

- read/watch the news and discuss;
- encourage your child to use a range of ambitious punctuation to add cohesion to their writing;
- support their comprehension of what they read through helping them to infer information from a range of texts and justify their viewpoint with substantiating evidence;
- encourage your child to formulate sentences which involve the use of semi-colons, colons or dashes.



Maths

In Math this week, Year 6 has been getting to grips with shapes. They have been:

- finding unknown angles which are vertically opposite each other;
- calculating unknown angles around a point and on a straight line;
- using protractors to measure angles;
- drawing a range of 2D shapes, using given dimensions and angles;
- constructing circles using a pair of compasses and measuring their radii.

Next week, we will be continuing our work on shapes. Specifically, they will be:

- investigating the circumference of a circle in relation to its diameter;
- using π (or 3.142) to calculate the circumference of a circle;
- creating patterns, featuring circles (and using a pair of compasses);
- classifying and sorting quadrilaterals;
- finding unknown angles in triangles and quadrilaterals.

Suggestions of ways you can support your child's Maths:

- purchase a geometry set for your child;
- support them in constructing circles using a pair of compasses;
- investigate from where the symbol π originates;
- explore a range of artwork which is constructed from geometrical shapes and, in particular, circles.