



St Philip Westbrook

C of E Aided Primary School

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Mrs J Wightman
Headteacher

Reception Newsletter – 21st September

We are delighted with how well the children have adjusted to full days in Reception. We are all feeling a little tired but the children are continuing to work hard and make us smile!

Language

Our new project, 'All About Me', has begun and we are enjoying finding out lots of things about the children. Next week we will be exploring the ways in which we are all different, as well as describing how we look and labelling pictures of ourselves. Following this, we will be sharing information about who is in our family. Please remember to send in your family photographs as soon as possible! The children will be writing about these pictures using the initial sounds they hear. If you need your photograph returning, please let a member of the team know.

Maths

This week we have been practising our counting skills and number recognition. We are learning how to write our numerals correctly, ensuring they face the correct way round. Next week we are going to become 'Shape Detectives'. We will be exploring the inside and outside classrooms looking for and naming 2D shapes. We will also begin to describe some of their properties using the language of 'sides' and 'corners'.

Reading

All children have now participated in their first guided reading session. This session will continue to take place weekly and the books we read will be recorded in the children's reading record book along with a target of focus. Please ensure that reading record books remain in children's book bags. The guided reading books are not sent home but children are invited to choose an independent read from our reading corner. These books can be changed by children independently whenever they wish. All children have a new bookmark in the front of their reading record book; these bookmarks will be updated with stickers each week if the children have read at least 3 times at home. Please record details of any reading or book sharing that takes place at home in your child's reading record book.

Phonics

Our phonics lessons have begun and this week we have been thinking about the letter names and pure sounds for s,a,t,p,i. Each week children will bring home a phonics bookmark displaying the sounds we have been learning. On the reverse of the bookmark are some words for children to read by blending the sounds together, for example, i-t makes "it". For guidance on how to pronounce the pure sounds visit

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/sound-pronunciation-guide/>.

PE

We have started PE lessons and are currently enjoying linking music and movement to make simple dances. Next week all children will be getting changed into their PE kits. Please ensure that PE kits are in school and continue to encourage children to be more independent when getting themselves dressed and changed. Also, please ensure all items of children's clothing, including their coats and school uniforms are clearly named.

Homework

All children have received their first piece of Reception homework. Please support children in completing this task and remind them to return their completed homework to the designated basket in their classroom by next Thursday. Children's homework books can also be used for recording any additional learning tasks that the children choose to complete at home, or any exciting news of adventures and experiences that the children have had such as holidays or sporting achievements. We can then celebrate and share this information with the children in school.

Reading meeting

We will be holding the meeting on Friday 5th October at 9.00am-9.30am and repeating it at 2.30pm-3.00pm. This meeting will provide an insight into the ways in which we teach children to read at St Philip's, along with a short introduction to Letters and Sounds. Please read and return the information letter in your child's book bag.

Thank you for your support,

The Reception Team