



# St Philip Westbrook

C of E Aided Primary School

[www.stphilipwestbrook.co.uk](http://www.stphilipwestbrook.co.uk)

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## Reception Newsletter – 15th March 2019

### **British Science Week**

The children have been very enthusiastic and eager to participate in a range of scientific investigations this week; we certainly have some budding scientists in our classrooms! Why not ask the children about how we made a Skittles rainbow, a bubbling Coca-Cola fountain or an exploding volcano?!

### **Language**

Last week we shared the story 'How to grow a dinosaur' by Caryl Hart. The children designed their own 'magical' seed packets and wrote imaginative sentences linked to what might grow from the seeds. This week we have combined our science investigational skills with our literacy. We have been investigating properties of different materials and predicting which of these are most likely to float or sink. This has also led us to consider the ways in which plastic is polluting our oceans and seas. The children have been writing predictions, describing their observations and designing posters and leaflets to tell others about the importance of reducing our use of plastic.

### **Maths**

We have been practising our counting skills in order to ensure that we are all counting accurately, forwards and backwards to and from 20. We have also been practising our counting on and counting back skills when we have been adding and subtracting; we put the starting number in our head and then count forwards or backwards from there using our fingers or objects. Please continue to support children learning and ordering numbers to 20 and writing these independently.

### **Spellings**

Our focus spellings for this half term are:

not, up, put, had, big, he, she, we, me, be

We will also be re-assessing children on any words they were unable to spell in our previous assessment. Please continue to practise these at home.

### **Mother's Day Assembly**

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, Reception will be leading a special assembly for Mother's Day. We will be celebrating our wonderful mums and exploring why they are so special with children sharing their own ideas and feelings. The service will start at 9.00am in the main hall and we look forward to seeing you there!

### **Spare clothes**

Our stock of spare clothes is running low. If children are sent home in spare clothes please ensure that these are washed and returned to school.

### **Water Bottles**

Children are encouraged to bring a clearly named water bottle to school every day. Please ensure that bottles are not stored in book bags as they may leak. We also ask that these bottles contain water only.

### **Parent Survey**

We are extremely proud of the progress the children have made on their learning journey so far. We are currently evaluating our projects and learning challenges for future use. In order to help us with this, all children have been issued with a short questionnaire about their learning experiences so far this year. On the reverse of the questionnaire is an opportunity for parents to also give us feedback about how you feel the year has progressed. Please complete this with the children and return it to school so that we can evaluate your feedback and continue to work hard to maintain our home-school partnership.

**Thanks for your continued support,**  
**The Reception Team**