



# St Philip Westbrook C of E Aided Primary School

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## Reception Newsletter – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017

### Language

Last week we had a visit from 'Super Writing Girl'. She reminded us of how important it is to always use our writing tricks in our sentences so that they can be read back easily. We then practised these skills when composing and writing sentences to describe different superheroes. We even added some STAR words to describe the superheroes and make our sentences more exciting. This week we have been learning about real-life superheroes. On Monday we had a visit from Fireman John. He told us all about his role as a fire fighter and even let the teachers try on some of his special clothes! We then looked at some non-fiction books about fire fighters and began to use the vocabulary associated with these texts, including 'contents page', 'index' and 'glossary'.

### Maths

Over the last two weeks we have been developing our calculation skills. Last week we investigated a range of addition number problems. These included number stories linked to our project, for example, 'Superman ate 5 healthy apples and 3 bananas. How many things did he eat altogether?' We thought about the different ways in which we could solve the problems and our methods included drawing pictures and using objects. The children responded extremely well to both of these methods, which led us to practise our counting on skills. We put the first number in our heads and counted on the next number using our fingers. This week we have focussed on subtraction. We began in a similar way to last week, drawing pictures and taking away objects. Some of us have also practised our counting back skills by putting the biggest number in our heads and counting backwards along the number line.

### Spellings

We are in the process of completing our next stage of spelling assessments. Following this, we will send home the children's scores. We are also re-assessing the children on any words they were unable to spell in our last assessment. Please continue to practise these at home.

Our new focus spellings for after half term will be:

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

### School website

We have updated our year group page with some useful downloadable documents and ICT links to websites. These are resources that we use in school so the children are familiar with most of them. If there are any other links or documents that you feel would be helpful to add then please let a member of the team know.

### Imagine a day...under the sea!

After half term our new project will explore life under the sea. We are planning to make some junk models of sea creatures with the children, however our 'junk box' is looking rather empty. If possible, please save any useful items you may use over the half term break (cereal boxes, yoghurt pots, bottle tops etc) and send them into school.

It is hard to believe that in one more working week we will be half way through the academic year! We hope all our families have a relaxing break and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Thanks for your continued support,

The Reception Team



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

