



St Philip Westbrook C of E Aided Primary School

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Reception Newsletter – Friday 31st March 2017

Language

Last week we shared a collection of 'under the sea' poems from 'Commotion in the Ocean.' We talked about rhyming words and used these poems to help us think of additional rhyming words. We also wrote some of our own poetry in the form of shape poems and acrostic poems. This week we have been looking at the non-fiction texts we borrowed from the library. We have been exploring their features and writing facts about sea creatures using all of our writing tricks. We have really enjoyed finding out fascinating things; did you know that the blood of an octopus appears to look blue?!

Maths

In our maths work last week we revisited shape and pattern. We focussed on the 3d shapes (cube, cuboid, pyramid, cone, sphere, cylinder) and used the language of 'faces', 'corners' and 'edges' to help us describe their properties. We also compared these shapes to real life objects whilst conducting shape hunts around the classroom. This week we are assessing the children on their ability to apply their number knowledge to solve mathematical problems. We have been very impressed with the children's improved knowledge of numbers to 20 and their ability to count on and back. We are now focussing on finding the number that is one less as well as doubling numbers to 10 and finding half. Please continue to practise these skills at home.

Spellings

We are in the process of assessing the children on our current spellings for this half term. We will also be re-assessing children on any words they were unable to spell in our previous assessment. We will update you with their spelling scores before Easter.

Mother's Day Assembly

We hope that you enjoyed our special assembly. We were so proud of the children for being so brave and speaking and singing so confidently. Thank you for all of your kind words and thanks. We have passed your messages on to the children.

WOW moments

Thank you to everyone who has continued to send in these positive notes from home regarding the children's achievements outside of school. This information is invaluable for our on-going assessments and the children thoroughly enjoy receiving their well-deserved praise from their class mates. As mentioned at the beginning of the year, please feel free to use the children's homework books as an additional source of evidence of their achievements. This is also the perfect place for children to record any tasks that they choose to tackle at home independently.

British Values Day

Next Friday 7th April we will be holding a special 'British Values Day'. On this day children are invited to come to school wearing the colours of red, white or blue. We will be thinking about the things that Britain is famous for, as well as all of the things traditionally British, that make our country special. In preparation for this day our homework task this week is designed to encourage children to start thinking about what they already know about Great Britain.

Are we nearly there yet?

When the children first started school in September we quickly identified that a number of them were very interested in the theme of transport. We planned this project so that we could address this interest and help to develop the children's learning further. We have lots of exciting things planned, including a school trip to Manchester Airport. More information about this will follow after the Easter break.

We are nearly at the end of another very busy term in Reception. We are very proud of the progress the children have made and look forward to making lots of memories and continuing to work hard in our final term together!

Thanks for your continued support,
The Reception Team



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