



St Philip Westbrook

C of E Aided Primary School

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**Mrs J Wightman
Headteacher**

Reception Newsletter – 10th May 2019

The Blue Planet Aquarium

Thank you to all those parents who were able to accompany us on our visit to the Blue Planet Aquarium today. We had a wonderful day and the children were fantastic! They listened extremely well and asked some super questions. We were very proud of them.

Language

Last week we shared the Julia Donaldson stories of 'The Singing Mermaid' and 'The Snail and the Whale'. We demonstrated our rhyming skills when guessing which words would complete the sentences and we wrote character descriptions and short retellings of the stories. This week we read the story of 'Sharing a Shell' and designed some of our very own sparkling shells, as well as retelling moments from the story using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops in our sentences. In preparation for our visit, we also composed questions that we wanted to answer on our school trip and used information books to help us with our learning about life under the sea.

Maths

In our maths work we have been continuing to rehearse our number knowledge and calculation skills. Last week we used objects, number lines and hundred squares to help us with our counting on and back and we also practised putting the biggest number in our heads and counting on and back on our fingers. Please continue to practise this at home. This week we have been applying our number knowledge in a variety of ways to help us solve problems; we used our calculating skills to help us find the total amounts of money in the purses. We also used our number doubles backwards to help the fisherman split the total number of fish in the net in half.

Spellings

Our focus spellings for this half term are:

look, day, him, his, but, can, back, of, if, off

We will be assessing the children on these words in the coming weeks, as well as re-assessing any words they spelt incorrectly in previous assessments (the full set of words can be found on the Reception page of the school website). Please continue to practise these at home. If your child is able to confidently spell all of the words correctly, try writing them in the context of a sentence.

Spare clothes

We keep a small store of spare clothes in the classroom in case the children need to get changed during the day. Items of clothing include spare underwear, socks, tights and uniform. If your child is sent home wearing some spare clothes from school, please can these clothes be washed and returned to school as we are running low on lots of items.

Sports Day

We will be having our Reception Sports Day on Monday 13th May (weather permitting). The fun will begin at 2:00pm on the main field. Parents are welcome to attend to support their children. All children have been given a team colour and they are invited to attend school in their sports kits on that day, preferably reflecting the colour of their team. Children are also encouraged to bring a named, sun hat to school. We advise parents to apply sun cream to children in the morning before they come to school as teachers are unable to apply sun cream to children. Please also ensure that water bottles contain water only.

Thank you for your support,

The Reception Team