



St Philip Westbrook

C of E Aided Primary School

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Reception Newsletter – 20th April 2020

Well, it has certainly been a strange few weeks! Thank you for all of the kind words of support we have received from our wonderful families. We couldn't be more proud of how well our children have adapted to this new style of learning and thank all of our parents for their incredible support during this unsettling time. We hope you had a lovely Easter!

Online Learning Tasks

We will continue to update our Reception Home page with learning tasks for the children. The tasks will contain a mixture of online activities and those which can be completed on paper or practically around the house and garden. When the 2DO tasks are completed and handed in, the results are sent directly to class teachers for marking. If you would also like to share news of other tasks being completed, then photographic evidence can be uploaded to the children's 'Work' folder using the instructions at the top of the Reception Home page. If any problems arise then messages can be sent to teachers via the online worry box. This can be found underneath the Purple Mash link on the 'Children' tab of the school website.

How Does your Garden Grow?

Our project this half term will explore the things that seeds need to grow and investigate how we can grow our own food. The children will be learning about the signs of Spring, as well as finding out about where our food comes from. We are very excited about this project and have some exciting activities planned!

Language

This week our language work will take a non-fiction focus. We will be using the text, 'All About Plants' to help us learn about the parts of a plant and the jobs that these parts do in order to help the plant grow healthily. This work is in preparation for our science work next week, where teachers will be planting seeds and placing them in different environments and monitoring them to see where they grow best. If you would like to join in too, then you will need some cress seeds or sunflower seeds.

Maths

Over the next couple of weeks we will continue to focus on our calculation skills. This week we are re-visiting addition. We will be sharing and solving problems that involve 'counting on'. This means that we should put the first number in our head and then count on using our fingers or objects. Next week we will be moving on to subtraction, whereby we will re-visit our 'counting back' skills. We will need to put the first number in our head and count backwards using our fingers or objects.

Spellings

Our focus spellings for this half term are:

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

Please also continue to practise previous spellings so that they are not forgotten.

Reading

We understand that reading may be tricky in the absence of school reading books, but it is vital that children continue to practise their reading during this time. The phonics tasks that we set will support children in reading words and simple sentences, however, children still need to have the opportunity to read and share books in order to develop their reading behaviours and their comprehension skills. The Oxford Owl website (listed in the links of the Reception Homepage) is a wonderful online resource whereby you can select books according to children's ages or bookbands. Ideally, at the end of the Reception year, children should be able to read texts within the yellow book band. Currently, children should be sharing books in the red book band, moving on to yellow as and when you feel that they may be ready.

We send lots of love to all of our children and families. We miss you all and hope that you are staying safe and well.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Reception Team