



St Philip Westbrook

C of E Aided Primary School

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Reception Newsletter – 22nd May 2020

We hope all of our families are safe and well! We will shortly be entering into our final half term of the Reception year. Although this was not how we envisaged spending our last few weeks, we will endeavour to make sure our children continue to enjoy their learning and we will try our best to make their final experiences of their Reception year as special as we can.

Online Learning Tasks

We continue to be extremely impressed by our wonderful children! It is so rewarding to see that they are still working so hard at home, despite the challenges that all families are facing. Remember to keep an eye on the individual class Twitter feeds for more information about your child's class and to see examples of their fabulous work!

Language

Last week we read the story of 'The Scarecrows' Wedding by Julia Donaldson. The children worked very hard designing scarecrows, hats and wedding cakes, as well as creating 'Wanted' posters for Reginald Rake! We loved looking at all of the creative designs and reading about the children's ideas. This week our focus has been on farms and farming. The children have designed some excellent farms. We have especially enjoyed reading the children's animal riddles. It is clear to see that children are trying hard to remember their finger spaces, capital letters and full stops! As mentioned previously, when children are set a writing task, please encourage them to use their phonics skills and record their ideas as independently as they can. This way, we are able to see what they can do well and which areas we need to support them in further.

Maths

The children have been working very hard on their counting skills. It is important for children to keep practising their counting, forwards and backwards from different starting points. We have received some very positive feedback from parents in response to the 'Oak National Academy' online maths lessons. If you would like to view more of these then when you visit their website, select the 'Classroom' tab and follow the options on screen to access more lessons from a range of Foundation Stage subjects.

Spellings

The online tasks today include a spelling quiz for children so that they can apply their knowledge of the words that they have been practising this half term. Follow the Whit break, our new focus spellings will be:

they, all, are, my, let, will, this, then, that, went

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

Return to School

On June 8th, school is currently due to re-open for children in Reception. We understand that the decision of whether or not to send your child back to school has been a very difficult one and we appreciate that many of you will still be unsure about your final decision. Over the last couple of weeks we have been working diligently to put plans in place to ensure that staff and children returning to school are kept safe and we will be strictly following the guidance provided from the local authority and the government. Classrooms have been re-arranged to ensure that all children have their own work stations (please see attached photograph). In order to achieve this we have had to remove all aspects of collaborative provision including role play, construction and story-making areas from classrooms. Children will not be required to bring a book bag to school as we will be unable to store these safely. Children will only need a suitable coat, a morning snack and a water bottle. Home learning tasks will continue to be set online via our Reception Homepage and the children in school will also be completing this work.

Sadly, we are unable to guarantee that returning children will be with their usual class teachers, nor in their own classrooms. It is also possible that children will be working alongside Reception children from other classes. The safety and well-being of our children will always be our priority and we will work tirelessly to ensure that children are happy and supported in school.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding,

The Reception Team