



St Philip Westbrook

C of E Aided Primary School

www.stphilipwestbrook.co.uk

**District Centre
Westbrook
Warrington
WA5 8UE
Tel: 01925 445391**

**Mrs J Wightman
Headteacher**

Reception Newsletter 9th October 2020

Language

We are enjoying learning lots of new things about the children through our project, 'All About Me'. Last week we thought about and described how we look. We also played guessing games and labelled pictures of ourselves. This week we have been describing where we live. We have been building models, drawing pictures and adding labels. It has been lovely to see so many children already applying the sounds they have been learning in phonics to their writing! Next week we will be thinking about our hopes and dreams for the future.

Maths

Last week we were 'Shape Detectives'. We explored the inside and outside classrooms looking for and naming 2D shapes. We also began to describe some of their properties using the language of 'sides' and 'corners'. This week our learning focus has been upon counting and number recognition. We have been impressed by how well children can recognise numbers in and around the environment; we are now starting to think about how we form these numbers when we write them. Please continue to practise this at home.

Reading

The children were very excited to take home their first reading book last week. Reading books can be changed on a Monday or a Thursday. Please ensure that books are returned in the children's book bags to keep them protected from the weather. We hope that the 'Reading Bookmark' we sent home was helpful in detailing the steps we go through to support children in their reading development. This week all the children have participated in a teacher-led guided group read and these sessions will continue to take place weekly. In addition, the children have also completed an online assessment on the 'Reading Eggs' app. This is an online learning tool designed to support children in their phonic development and reading skills. Today all children have brought home their log in details for Reading Eggs so that they can continue to work on these skills at home.

Phonics

The children are enjoying participating in our phonics lessons and have impressed us with their improved pronunciation and recognition of these sounds in their reading books. Each Friday we will be uploading a phonics bookmark to the Reception Homepage, containing the letter sounds we have practised that week. There will also be a collection of words for children to practise reading using these sounds. Some weeks these words may not be real words, but silly 'made up' words. Can the children recognise which words are real and which are not?

Career Day

On Monday 12th October (next week) we will be having a 'Career Day' in Reception. On this day children are invited to come to school dressed in a way that reflects their hopes and dreams for the future. We will also be participating in some online video calls with a pilot, a dentist, a firefighter and our very own headteacher, so that the children can learn about their professions.

Packed Lunches

The children are thoroughly enjoying their school dinners and have settled into our lunch time routine extremely well. For those choosing to bring a packed lunch to school, children are welcome to have a small treat of a cake or a biscuit (similar to the school dinners), but please do not send sweets or chocolate bars. Thank you for your support in this.

Isolation Work

As mentioned in our email to parents last week, the majority of Reception homework tasks will be set on Purple Mash. Please be aware that this is also where a number of tasks have been set for those children who are isolating due to Covid. Isolation tasks are not for children who are attending school, as they will be doing similar tasks in the classroom that will be marked by their teachers. If children would like to complete these isolation tasks in addition to their set homework then they are welcome to do so, however teachers will only be marking and sending written feedback to those children who are in isolation. It is very important that children who are isolating are supported in accessing and completing these tasks to ensure that they do not miss out on important learning. Full lesson overviews can be found on the Reception Homepage, under the tab 'School Work When Isolating'.

Thanks for your continued support,

The Reception Team