



St Philip Westbrook

C of E Aided Primary School

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**Mrs J Wightman
Headteacher**

Reception Newsletter – 12th March 2021

Welcome Back!

We were delighted to welcome our wonderful children back into the classroom on Monday! It was lovely to see their enormous smiles and to watch and listen to them as they reunited with their friends and teachers. We have had a lovely week with them and look forward to enjoying the rest of the academic year without any further setbacks to our intended learning and fun!

British Science Week

The children were very enthusiastic and eager to participate in a range of scientific investigations this week; we certainly have some budding scientists in Reception! Why not ask the children about how we made a 'Skittles rainbow' or a 'walking rainbow'? Can the children tell you what materials are waterproof or how you can find out?

Language

This week we have combined our science investigational skills with our literacy. We investigated properties of different materials and predicted which of these were most likely to float or sink. This led us to consider the ways in which plastic is polluting our oceans and seas and how we can play an active role in looking after the environment. The children wrote predictions, described their observations and designed posters and leaflets to tell others about the importance of reducing our use of plastic and picking up litter.

Maths

We have been practising our counting skills in order to ensure that we are all counting accurately, forwards and backwards to and from 20. We have also been practising our counting on and counting back skills when we have been adding and subtracting; we put the starting number in our head and then count forwards or backwards from there using our fingers or objects. Please continue to support children learning and ordering numbers to 20 and writing these independently.

Spellings

Our focus spellings for this half term are:

not, up, put, had, big, he, she, we, me, be

We will also be re-assessing children on any words they were unable to spell in our previous assessment. Please continue to practise these at home.

World Book Day

We had a fantastic day last Thursday celebrating our love of books and enjoyment of reading. The children looked wonderful in their outfits and loved sharing these with each other. Please see the school website for more information about our 'World Book Day' antics!

Book Bags

Just a friendly reminder that book bags should only be brought to school on Mondays and Thursdays. Children are encouraged to change their reading books on these days. This then allows us time to quarantine books in order to reduce the risk of spreading germs.

Dropping off and Collecting Arrangements

As we now have a larger number of children in school, please can we remind all parents to follow the pathways that have been set out on the infant playground when dropping off in the morning and collecting children at home time. Parents should remain at the cones at the top of the pathways and staff will send the children over to you. If children are being dropped off or collected from Miss Parsons' classroom, please ensure that adults walk straight back behind the cones on the opposite side of the playground, rather than turning back towards Miss Daley's collection point and crossing pathways with children and parents from that class.

**Thank you for your support,
The Reception Team**