



**St Philip Westbrook**  
**C of E Aided Primary School**

**St Philip's Centre**  
**District Centre**  
**Westbrook**  
**Warrington**  
**WA5 8UE**

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**Headteacher**

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**Reception Newsletter – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021**

We have had a very busy half term! The children have worked so hard and thoroughly deserve their well-earned rest when we finish for our half term break next Friday. It is hard to believe we will soon be entering into our final half term of the Reception year!

**Language**

Last week we shared the Julia Donaldson story, 'The Scarecrows' Wedding'. The children loved the book and enjoyed using our scarecrow props to retell the story. We wrote character descriptions, as well as WANTED posters for the mean scarecrow. We also designed our own scarecrows and thought carefully about all of our writing targets when we wrote our descriptive sentences. This week we have been assessing the children's independent writing skills. We are learning about farms and the things that we might see on a farm, as well as the different kinds of food we get from farms. The children have impressed us by their independent ability to remember capital letters, full stops and finger spaces!

**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 farmer split the total number of animals on the farm 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 spellings next week, 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, particularly those words that contain the letters 'b' and 'd' as these can easily be mis-orientated. If your child is able to confidently spell all of the words correctly, try writing them in the context of a sentence.

**Snacks**

We are able to offer the children a healthy snack in school every day. If you choose to send a snack from home, please ensure that it reflects a healthy choice of either fruit, vegetables, bread or toast. Please do not send rice cakes, yoghurt coated treats or breakfast bars.

**Book Bags**

Book bags should be brought to school on Mondays and Thursdays so that children are able to change their school reading books. This is so that we have enough time to quarantine books before they are lent out to others. We encourage children to read at home at least 3 times per week. This can include a phonic-based activity on Reading Eggs. The children are making excellent progress in their reading skills and we very much appreciate the time that parents are spending to support children in this. Thank you!

Thank you for your support,

The Reception Team