



St Philip Westbrook

C of E Aided Primary School

www.stphilipwestbrook.co.uk

Mrs J Wightman
Headteacher

District Centre
Westbrook
Warrington
WA5 8UE
Tel: 01925 445391

Reception Newsletter – 7th May 2021

Language

Last week we enjoyed sharing the traditional tale of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' with the children. We discussed the repetitive language in the text and enjoyed retelling the story using our character voices and lots of expression. The children wrote about the character of the giant and also began to write their own retellings of the story, ensuring their high frequency words were spelt correctly. This week we have been revisiting instructions. We have been reading and following instructions to make a range of different bird feeders. Following this, we wrote simple instructions to describe what we did, making sure we remembered our capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.

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 words in the coming weeks, 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. If your child is able to confidently spell all of the words correctly, try writing them in the context of a sentence.

Lifecycles

As part of our project work, we have been learning about the lifecycle of a butterfly. At the beginning of this week each class received a parcel containing a pot of tiny caterpillars. We have been watching the caterpillars get bigger over the last few days and are eagerly awaiting their transformation!

Nuts

Please ensure that children do not bring any food in their lunchboxes that may contain nuts. We have a number of children in Reception with nut allergies. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Reading Eggs

Thank you for all of your support with the development of the children's reading skills this year. The Reading Eggs app appears to extremely successful in supporting children with their developing phonic knowledge and parental feedback has been very positive. A number of parents have queried if there is a similar app to help develop the children's early mathematical skills. 'Math Seeds' is the partner app. As a school we do not currently hold a subscription to this website but this is something we are now considering and will be looking in to. In the meantime, the website does advertise a free trial for any parents who may be interested.

Thank you for your support,

The Reception Team