



**St Philip Westbrook**  
**C of E Aided Primary School**  
*'Together we aim high and with God's love we can fly'*

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

**Mr P Stanley**  
**Headteacher**

**Tel: 01925 445391**

### **Reception Newsletter 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

#### **Warrington Guardian**

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October the Warrington Guardian will be coming into school to photograph our wonderful Reception children, looking smart in their new school uniforms. Please be reassured that only those children who have permission to be photographed will be involved.

#### **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 who is in our family and how we have changed since we were babies. Thank you to all those of you who have sent in photographs!

#### **Maths**

Last week we practised our sorting skills. We compared objects and organised them into groups according to how they were different. We discovered that almost anything can be sorted. We sorted buttons, shoes, leaves, ourselves and even our toys. We are now experts at tidy up time, making sure everything gets sorted into the correct baskets! This week we have been learning how to compare groups of objects to work out which groups are the largest or smallest. We have been using the words 'more', 'less' and 'fewer' to describe our findings. In doing this we are also practising our counting skills. The children have been working hard to make sure that they count slowly and carefully and say one number for each item.

#### **Phonics**

The children are working very hard in our phonics lessons and have impressed us with their improved pronunciation and recognition of these sounds. Each week we will be sending home a phonics bookmark containing the letter sounds we have practised that week. On the reverse of the bookmark is a collection of words for children to practise blending 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?

For guidance on how to pronounce the pure sounds visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

#### **Reading**

All children are enjoying participating in their shared reading sessions, learning how to handle books and talk about what is happening in the pictures. Over the next couple of weeks we will begin our more formal 'guided reading' with the children, where we will be looking more closely at the sounds in words and we will practise blending these sounds together to read the words. Children will also start to bring home a reading book from the classroom, along with a reading record book. Please ensure that reading record books remain in children's book bags. These books should be filled in each time your child reads with you at home, so that teachers can monitor their reading progress more closely.

Children are invited to change their reading books independently whenever they wish.

#### **Reading Meeting**

In the Autumn term, we would usually hold a meeting for Reception parents and carers to explain all about how we teach reading and how your child can be supported at home. As we are not able to hold the meeting in person, we have recorded the meeting for you and uploaded it onto the Reception homepage of the school website. We hope that you find it useful.

#### **Career Day**

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October 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. Thank you to all our parents who have volunteered to come into school to talk to the children about their jobs, including our very own head teacher! We are looking forward to a wonderful week.

#### **Parent Consultations**

Next week class teachers will be meeting with all parents via video call on Google Meet. By now, you should have all received an emailed invitation to attend this meeting. If you have not yet received it, please check your Spam folders or let the school office know. The purpose of these meetings is to let you know about how your child has settled into school and to discuss their progress so far. The meetings have been booked in slots of ten minutes. Please be prompt for your consultation as teachers will have to end the meetings on time in order to attend their next consultation. We look forward to speaking with you all!

**Thank you for your continued support,**

**The Reception Team**