



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

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Reception Newsletter – 14th January 2022

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a peaceful and relaxing Christmas break. Thank you very much for your kind wishes, cards and generous gifts. The staff and children have been extremely eager to share their Christmas news with each other and we are all excited for the challenges of the term ahead.

Language

On Monday morning the children were surprised to discover a mysteriously wrapped package in the classroom. We keenly unwrapped it to discover a wooden paintbrush. We later discovered that this paintbrush has magical qualities and can turn our paintings into real life (within reason)! Our new literacy story for the next few weeks is 'The Magic Paintbrush' by Julia Donaldson. Following our discovery on Monday the children have been very keen to label and describe their paintings, in the hope they could become real! We have also written sentences to describe the little girl in the story, trying hard to record the sounds we can hear in our words, as well as remembering finger spaces, capital letters and full stops.

Maths

This week we have been revisiting our knowledge of numbers to 5 and exploring the different ways in which we can make these amounts. We have also been practising finding the number that is one less using objects, number rhymes and pictures. Alongside our learning, we are also practising writing our numerals correctly. Please continue to practise this at home.

Phonics

Following our return to school, we have been revisiting some previously taught sounds whilst assessing the children individually on the sounds they are confident with and those that need a little more consolidation. Next week, across school, we will be starting to teach from a new phonics scheme called 'Read, Write Inc'. Children will be grouped according to their current phonic knowledge and will participate in sessions which will be personalised to their own next steps. As the term goes on, these sessions will also include guided reading and handwriting activities.

Spellings

All children completed a spelling assessment before Christmas. Please continue to support the children in practising these words as we will re-assess them before the end of this half term. If your child was able to correctly spell all of the words, why not challenge them to write them correctly within the context of a sentence?

Our next set of spellings will be:

am, and, dad, an, is, got, on, put, mum, get

It's a Baby!

Thank you for all of your kind messages and comments about our Christmas performance. We are so proud of our wonderful children and extremely glad you enjoyed watching. We only wish we had time to make an outtakes video to share with you all as there were plenty of comedy moments! The video will remain on our Reception homepage until the end of half term.

To Infinity and Beyond!

Our new project is well underway and we have been awestruck by the children's enthusiasm and thirst for knowledge linked to this theme! They have already remembered so much information from our project sessions and still have so many questions that we are all keen to seek the answers to as the project continues.

St Rocco's Elf Run

Thank you so much, once again, for all of your kind sponsorship donations. The money has now been collected and we are eagerly awaiting news of how much money we raised for this wonderful charity.

Healthy Snacks

As the new term begins we would like to remind parents about our healthy snacks policy. Fresh fruit/vegetables are available in school every day. If you choose to send a snack from home, please ensure it consists only of fruit, vegetables, bread or toast. Please do not send breadsticks, croissants, fruit loaf or yoghurts.

Isolation

Thank you for being vigilant and supporting us in our approach to protect our children against the spread of Covid. If children do test positive then online work will be posted on the 'Remote Learning' tab of the Reception page on the school website.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Reception Team