

**Reception -**

This week in Reception we started our new topic of 'Space.' We have been learning about the two closest planets to the sun which are Mercury and Venus. We have watched interesting video clips about space and have even been listening to some fun songs about the Solar System. In the outdoor area we have been busy making rockets as well as taking part in an astronaut obstacle course as we found out astronauts have to be fit and healthy to travel into space.

We are continuing to learn letter sounds and sight words and it really helps the children if they have the chance to practise them regularly at home with an adult.

In Maths we have been recognising 2d shapes and trying hard to describe their properties using words such as sides and corners. We have continued to work out one more than a group of objects and/or a number using equipment such as Numicon to assist this. (There is still some Numicon available for sale in the office, £20 per bag!)

**Weekend Challenge**

Can the children go on a shape hunt around their home and draw the shapes of the different objects which they find! Good luck to you all and bring your findings into school to share with the class.

**HOMEWORK**

Reading: at least 4 times a week and reading diary signed and dated.

Please practise Optima sounds and words. Practise pencil grip and name writing.

**Year 1 -**

This week in Year One Maths lessons we have been learning to form numbers correctly and write and spell numbers to twenty in words. We have started learning to measure and compare objects by length and height. We found objects that were longer or shorter than a chosen object and used vocabulary of longest and shortest. We recapped our previous learning on halving and quartering shapes and numbers practically.

In English we have been learning to spell the days of the week and our 100 high frequency words. We edited sentences to include capital letters and spoke about where they are used. We know that it goes at the beginning of a sentence but have been learning to use them for names of people, places and the pronoun I. We also learnt that the days of the week and months of the year have capital letters too.

We have started a new Science project about animals and have been describing and comparing their similarities and differences. We will be learning to classify animals into birds, amphibians, mammals, fish, reptiles and insects and to talk about their habitats and diet. The children have been asked to research a given animal and to share their information with the class. We were pleased to see some children have already done this, but ask that it is completed and handed in by next week so that we can continue our project. We hope that this might inspire the children to find out information about other animals and perhaps do writing about them at home. Thank you for your support.

**HOMEWORK**

Reading: at least 4 times a week and reading diary signed and dated.

**Year 2 -**

This week in Maths we have continued to practise counting on in 2s, 5s and 10s and some of us have used that knowledge to work out the answers to repeated addition questions.

We have also continued to practise halving numbers and have related halving to doubling numbers e.g. half of 10 is 5, double 5 is 10. Our recall of doubles and halves

is now much better and we are beginning to respond quickly to questions asked of us.

**We have added Counting Two to the Year 2 section on My Maths if you'd like to practise.**

We have linked our English and History work this week to find out about Florence Nightingale. We've talked about what we'd like to know about her and have used information from books and the internet to answer our questions.

We've also written an information text about her, trying hard to include capital letters, full stops, conjunctions, noun phrases and different sentence forms (exclamation sentences, questions, statements, commands).

Next week we will be taking part in a History off the Page day about Florence Nightingale. We are looking forward to finding out even more about her work and her life.

### **Homework**

Reading is homework and the children should be reading to an adult at least 4 times a week, and reading diaries signed and dated. Please make sure that your child is doing this as it makes a considerable difference to their progress in reading, particularly if they talk and answer questions about what they have read.

**Spellings:** as explained in the letter stapled into the back of book diaries, written below are the phoneme/graphemes that the children will be practising next week. Please practise these at home too.

### **Sycamore:**

Cheetahs (Team 1) suffix dge/ge - e.g. edge, bridge, large

Lions (Team 2) ey e.g. key, alley, valley

Tigers (Team 3) ar e.g. car, dark, garden

### **Willow:**

Cheetahs prefix re - e.g. relax, return, refill

Giraffes - ear e.g. near, fear, beard

Elephants - ay e.g. day, play, stay