



15th February 2019

Dear Family,

This week we continued to celebrate Chinese New Year by making wonderful dragons and tasting prawn crackers with dips.

The children also made lovely Valentine's cards and they had a go at writing about a special person that they love. We were also very busy making Chocolate krispie cakes for a Valentine's present for their mums and dads...we hope you enjoyed them!

Maths;

We explored subtraction this week.

We practised using counters, play food and sweets in groups of 10 to practise solving simple take away problems. E.g if I have 10 mushrooms and I put 6 mushrooms on the pizza, how many will I have left. If I have 10 sweets and I eat 7, how many will I still have?

The children enjoyed solving these problems practically and we introduced them to writing subtraction number sentences e.g. $10 - 4 = 6$.

Please play practical subtraction games with your child at home, first starting with 10 objects and then if they are ready try with up to 20 objects.

Literacy;

This week we learnt the digraphs '**ow**' (cow, frown) and '**oi**' (oil, coin), and the Trigraph '**ear**' (fear, tears) and '**air**' (fair, pair).

Please encourage your child to practise their letter sounds and digraphs/trigraph recognition at home and reading phase words and digraph words to support them practising their blending skills. Once they are blending the letter sounds well please encourage your child to read the words automatically as this is our ultimate goal for the children!

Please practise writing all phase words at home and if your child is ready please see if they can practise composing and writing simple sentences at home; please use phase 2 and 3 words in sentences. If your child is confident reading phase 2 and 3 words please practise reading phase 4 and 5 words at home.

ow	
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oi		σi	
ear		ear	
air		air	
ow	oi	ear	air
cow	oil	ear	air
now	soil	dear	pair
wow	coins	fear	fair
town	foil	near	lair
clown	coil	year	flair
frown	tinfoil	hear	stairs
brown	boiling	beard	chairs
crown		tears	

Please help your child to practise reading these sentences. They can also try to write some of them.

I like the clown but he is too quick.

I put tinfoil on my fish so it stays hot.

The man with the beard looks like he is sad.

He can run up and down the stairs.

I am going to be in Year 1 next year.

Phase Two Words: please practise reading by sight (automatically) Please also practise writing the words.

a	can	up	him	is
an	dad	mum	his	it
as	had	but	not	of
at	back	the	got	off
if	and	to	no	on
in	get	I	go	into

Phase 3 Words: Please practise writing the words once your child can read them.

will	that	this	her
then	them	with	my
see	for	now	are
down	look	too	you
he	she	we	they
me	be	was	all

Phase 4 words to practise reading at home

went	help	do	little
it's	said	some	one
from	have	come	when
children	like	were	out
just	so	there	what

Phase 5 words to practise reading at home

don't	house	came	put	oh
old	about	make	their	people
I'm	your	here	Mr	called
by	day	saw	Mrs	asked
time	made	very	looked	could

Digraphs and trigraphs and associated words to practise recognising/pronouncing & reading:

th that with	sh shop wish	ch chick church	ee bee sheep
or torn short	oi spoil poison	oo (long sound) spoon broom	ar farm smart
ay way way	ng song ringing	ow cow brown	igh sight tonight
ow bow bow	ay way way	ear tear fear	air pair stairs

Morning Reading club



You are welcome to come into school on **Tuesday and Friday mornings** to read with your child. Mrs McGhie will also be with you to support you with any questions you may have about your child's phonics and reading skills. The sessions will run from 8.20 - 8.45am. Please come to the school office at 8.20am. Thank you.

Pets!



Next half-term we will be exploring Pet animals for the first three weeks. Your child is welcome to bring in information and stories about PETS to share in class.

If your child would like to bring in their PET to show the children please speak to a member of the Reception team and we can organise a show and tell session at the end of the school day.

We will also be setting up a Vet's role-play, and we would appreciate any donations of Pet bowls, pet food packaging, and vet leaflets. Thank you!

Reminders:

- Half term holiday: 18th - 22nd February.
- School opens as usual on Monday 25th February.
- St David's Day Friday 1st March - Non-uniform day: The children can wear something YELLOW to school.
- World Book day Thursday 7th March - Non-uniform day: The children can dress up as their favourite story character!
- Parent Consultation Meetings: Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th March
- Friday 29th March: Reception trip to The Gruffalo Park.

Wishing you a lovely half-term holiday!

The Reception team