

Reception Newsletter January 2017

Welcome back to school!

Funday Friday

As you know, parents are invited to come and spend time in school every Friday morning. On Friday 20th January, we are holding a special 'party' morning and hope that as many of you as possible will come and help the children (and us!) to prepare for our welcome back to school party. There will be opportunity to help with baking, making party hats, making paper chains and lots of other activities. Please come and join us – this is open to mums, dads, grandmas, grandads etc. You can also bring younger children.

Reading

Many children are now bringing a reading book home alongside their library books. This is a book that your child should read to you, although they will need to be supported, especially at first. We are also beginning to learn some 2 letter sounds such as 'sh' and 'ee'. To help you further, **I will be holding a short meeting for parents on January 19th at 2.30 in the main school. Please do your best to attend.**

Maths

In January we will be covering counting and recognising numbers to 100, counting in tens, subtraction, length and time. If you would like to know more about how the school teaches maths, **I will be holding a short meeting for parents on January 26th at 2.30 in the school hall.**

Focus children

Each week 3 children are chosen as 'focus children'. The staff will pay particular attention to these children as they play, learning about their interests and abilities and moving their learning forward. Children are chosen to be a focus child at least once per term. When it is your child's turn we will ask you to fill in a simple form and send in some photographs which your child will talk to the class about. When the week is finished, you will be invited to come into class and discuss your child's progress. Thank you for your support with this.

Helping at home

Reading – read a selection of books to your child and ask them questions about the stories. It is great to read the same book over and over again as this helps to develop children's understanding of stories and encourages them to read on their own.

Writing – encourage your child to draw and write using felt tips crayons etc. If they are writing, ask them what they want to say and ask what sounds they can hear. It's best to encourage them to use a 3 fingered pencil grip. Please ask if you are not sure about this.

Maths – play games (such as snakes and ladders) that involve counting forwards and backwards. Counting to 20, then 30, then 40 up to 100. It is important that children are secure with each '10 number' before moving onto the next one – concentrate on counting to 30 until they are secure before moving to 40 and then to 50.

RE – please practise the Our Father and Hail Mary at home as we are learning these prayers at school.

General

- teach your child their birthday date and address.
- teach your child to dress and undress themselves, including keeping jumpers etc. the right way in
- talk to them about ways to keep healthy

Best wishes

Catherine, Gill, Celia and Kath

Please take a few minutes to fill in this sheet

How is your child growing and learning?

Do they have any out of school activities or hobbies?

What do they do that makes you feel proud?

Please write about them and return your comments to school. Photographs would be lovely too.

Child's name _____ Date _____

Child's name _____ Date _____