



# ★ Newsletter ★

14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

We have enjoyed another couple of very busy weeks since the last newsletter. We were treated to a fantastic performance of 'The Stone in the Sword' last Tuesday when the Image Theatre Company visited us in school. The story was performed in the hall and there were lots of colourful props and catchy songs for the children to enjoy. It was certainly a very loud and exciting afternoon!

Last week, we combined our science and design and technology skills to work cooperatively in groups. The challenge was to design any kind of shelter (previously discussed) using a variety of materials such as moulding clay, straws, cocktail and lollipop sticks amongst other materials. There were certainly some very interesting and pleasing results and the children were very proud of their work! They were then able to build on this experience at Forest School yesterday where we began to construct real shelters in the great outdoors. All the children loved their time in the woods and behaved with true take care. In Art, we have looked closely at a range of different paintings by some well-known artists. Every child wrote down their initial observations about each painting, noticing primary and secondary colours and describing how each piece made them feel. We have also tried mixing paints with a palette and rollers. In geography, the children have enjoyed working with simple maps with a key. From this, they were able to describe the position of different landmarks and buildings using the language 'next to', 'below', 'opposite' and 'above'.

## Maths:

We have now finished our unit of work on place value. All children recently completed an assessment to check their understanding of the work covered this half term. I was really pleased with the outcome and all children have made a good level of progress over the last weeks. We are now about to move onto addition and subtraction.

Year one have been focusing lots of the correct vocabulary when comparing groups of objects (fewer, more and same) and comparing numbers (less than, greater than and equal to). We then began to look at number lines, thinking carefully about how we label them and how we can use them to find one more and one less.

Year two have also been learning about comparing numbers and using the language less than, greater than and equal to ( $<$   $>$   $=$ ). We have then moved onto counting up in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s. The children found counting up in 3s particularly tricky so these are all bits you could practise at home.

### English:

All the children are absolutely loving 'Where the Wild Things Are' by Maurice Sendak. Over the last two weeks, we have made paper puppets and enjoyed creating scenes with them. We have built on our knowledge of using creative nouns and adjectives and from this we have been able to develop some descriptions of the different characters in the text. I have been really impressed with their vocabulary choices and how they have used these in their sentences.

### Reading:

Please encourage your child to read at least three times a week and continue to sign it in the diary pages of their planner. As always, I am quite happy you to just initial the dates to record their reading if this is easier. I will continue to be checking diaries every Friday and will award stickers as a reward for regular reading. Reading book change will continue to be a Friday. If books need changing in between the change day, they will need to let me know and I can organise an extra book.

### Year 2 spelling:

The children are coping well with their weekly spelling tests. We have told the children that it does not matter if they make mistakes as long as they try their best. There is no pressure on the children to achieve full marks every week at this stage. The important thing to remember is that they can see why they may have made a mistake.

I will send the new spelling lists for the second half of the Autumn term next Friday. This list will also be available on my class page of the school website. Thank you for continuing to support and encourage your child with their spellings.

### Additional Information:

- Forest School Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October (afternoon)
- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for Monday sessions and a warm outdoor kit for Friday mornings.
- Harvest Service in St. Peter's Church – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 10am – all welcome
- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October – Inset Day
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – KSI Trip to Sudbury Hall. (Information has been provided separately about this)

The next newsletter will be found **ONLY** on my class page of the school website. This will be ready for you on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

I look forward to seeing you at our Harvest Festival next Thursday if you are able to attend.

Have a great weekend and a lovely half term next week. Fingers crossed for some decent weather!

Miss Fisher 😊