

# Weekly Newsletter

It was so lovely to be back at school on Monday! Your children arrived happily and they were full of excitement and enthusiasm which was lovely to see. I was really pleased that they hadn't forgotten any of the routines that we had worked so hard to establish before the temporary closure.

I would like to say a huge thank you for supporting your child with their home learning. We spent the whole of Monday morning sharing and celebrating the wonderful work on show. The children were so proud of their achievements and rightly so! We all washed our hands before and after we shared the work as we wanted the children to take their work books straight home again just in case they are needed again (hopefully never!)

We had an amazing 'Wild Things' day today. The children looked fantastic in their animal outfits and made crowns and masks for the occasion. Both classes enjoyed a catwalk in the morning so that we could all look at each other's costumes. In the afternoon, they stomped and danced around in the hall to our 'Wild Things' song. I will be uploading photographs onto the class page of the school website shortly so keep an eye out for these!

## Reading:

I am providing all children with three home reading books each week. I do not expect the children to read all three in a week but I feel that it is safer that they have an extra supply just in case there is another closure of the 'bubble'. Any books that have not been read on book change day can be kept for a further week. We are continuing to monitor your child's reading each day as part of our phonic teaching. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, Year 2 children will be screened for phonics after half term (this should have been in June) Once the screening has taken place, the children will move onto a spelling programme and will bring weekly spellings home to learn.

## **English: 'Where the Wild Things Are'**

**Year 1** children have continued to enjoy the text this week. They have produced some super writing based on questions they would like to ask Max, paying attention to correct punctuation and remembering to add a question mark. They then made Max stick puppets and used them to ask and answer their questions with a partner.

**Year 2** children continued to enjoy the story and have focused on grammar objectives this week. They have studied the characters in the story. The children learnt about "doing words", verbs, by looking at how they moved and discussed the importance of tenses and how to change regular verbs to the past tense. They then revised noun phrases (adjective, adjective noun) ready for a big write next week.

## **Maths:**

**Year one** children have started a new unit on addition and subtraction. They learnt that a number can be split into two parts creating a whole. From this, the children wrote a number sentence using the addition and equals symbols. They then challenged themselves to find the commutative of the addition calculation.

**In Year 2**, the children have reached the end of our unit of work on place value. They completed an assessment which produced very pleasing results from all children. They have now started a new unit on addition and subtraction, focusing on fact families and checking their calculations carefully.

## **Paws, Claws and Whiskers (topic):**

The children have been working on a piece of artwork for a classroom display. A while ago, they drew a picture of a tiger and used oil pastels or wax crayons to add colour. This was then placed onto a background of green leaves. The finishing touch was a

brightly collaged border. Their work is stunning and it is such a shame that we cannot have anybody into school to admire it! Look out for photos appearing on the class page of the website shortly.

## **Reminders:**

P.E. days are Thursday and Friday for this half term. I will let you know if this changes.

Virtual parents' meetings will be taking place via Microsoft Teams the week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> October. You should have received an email from the office with details of dates and available times. If for whatever reason you would prefer a phone call on a different day, I am happy to accommodate your wishes - please email me if this is the case.

I would like to thank you once again for your kind comments and positive feedback, especially during our recent time of closure.

Mrs Gilbey