

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

In our phonics this week, we have been learning the letters and their sounds for, 'sh', 'ch', 'th' and 'ng'. We practised identifying these digraphs and saying the sounds that they make. We have also been practising writing the letters. Can your child practise forming the letters at home? Can they remember the rhymes to help us when forming them? Please see Google Classroom for the rhymes. Please ensure they are using lower case letters with correct start and end points. Can they tell you any words that include these sounds such as wish, path, chop and sing? Can they spot any of these sounds in your home, outside, in books or posters? Can they read any words that contain just these sounds? You might also like to play games with your child such as "I spy".

Please continue to practise blending words with your children. We suggest doing this orally, for example it is time for b e d. Your child should then orally blend these sounds to say 'bed'. You could do this for many words such as 'sock', 'coat', 'bag' and 'cup'. Once your child is confident doing this, you could ask them to read CVC words around the house. You could also ask for their help writing shopping lists to get them to write the CVC words.

In maths we have looking at positional language. We have encouraged the children to use a range of language such as behind, next to, in front, under and above. The children gave their friends and instruction or route to follow using these words. They then followed the instructions given to them. Can your child hide an object and describe where it is to you using these words? Can they follow the instructions if you hide something?

This week we have been starting to think about our Christmas play. We have been asking the children which part they would like and have been learning the songs. We will let you know which part your child has as soon as possible. More details will follow in the coming weeks as we await guidance. We are hoping to offer you the opportunity to come in and watch the play, however if we are unable to do so it will be recorded for you. If it goes ahead with an audience, we will offer two dates and ask that only 2 people per family attend and only on one date.

We hope you have an enjoyable long weekend.

Natasha Lewis, Tracey Mansfield and the EYFS team