

Dear Parents and carers,

In our literacy this week, we have been learning the sounds 'y', 'z', 'zz' and 'qu'. We are practising identifying the letters and saying the sounds that they make. We have also been practising writing the letters. Can your child practise forming the letters at home using the templates provided? Please ensure that your child is writing their ascenders and descenders correctly and that they are using lower case letters.

This half term, we begin to look at digraphs and trigraphs. These are sounds that contain two or three letters to make one sound. Can your child identify these sounds in words, starting with qu? Can they read any words which contain these letters, and the ones they have previously learnt? If you show words containing digraphs, encourage your child to spot the sound first, then sound out the word.

We have been learning tricky words in phonics too. These are words that are not phonetically plausible so should be learnt by sight. The children have been learning to read and write the words 'I', 'no', 'go', 'to', 'into' and 'the'. This half term we will be introducing the tricky words 'me', 'be', 'we', 'he', 'she', 'my', 'are', 'was', 'her', 'you', 'they' and 'all.' Please practise reading and writing these words at home, ensuring they are spelled correctly.

This week we have been looking at teen numbers in maths. We practised counting aloud from 0 to 20 and then back again. We reminded the children of how to say 'teen' at the end of these numbers. We then looked at writing the numerals, understanding that all teen numbers start with a 1 and are followed by another numeral. We then looked at matching numeral and quantity. A way of remembering how to write teen numbers is to say that it is 10, represented by the 1, then however many more objects. So 12 would be 10 straws and 2 more. Can your child have a go at matching numeral and quantity at home? Can they write their numbers?

This week we have looked at the story of Elmer. We discussed how Elmer isn't like an ordinary elephant, he is special, unique and should be treated fairly. We made links to anti-bullying week and discussed how it is important to be kind to everyone, no matter what they look like. We reminded the children that bullying isn't tolerated at our school and suggested different strategies if someone is upsetting them. We then spoke about what makes each of us special and every child shared their ideas. We drew pictures and had a go at writing what makes us special. Can your child tell you what makes them special?

This week, you may have noticed that we have started to send out our values badges. These badges have either an A, E, V or K on them. The A stands for achievement, E for effort, K for kindness and V for our school value of the half term. We collect these badges in on a Thursday ready to hand out the following week. Please take a picture as a keep sake if you wish to, however we kindly request that you do not keep the badges. Please ensure that if your child receives a badge, they wear it with pride each day and return it on a Thursday.

Thursday November 19th 2020

A polite reminder to please ensure that if your child has a school meal that you are pre-ordering it each day. It ensures that your child has a meal that they like and you know what they are eating. Please talk to your child about the choices as we want them to enjoy their lunches.

Our home learning books have been returned today ready for the weekend. Thank you for completing activities with your children at home. Please remember to only complete one activity a week and hand in the books on a Wednesday for us to leave a comment or a sticker. Please continue to read with your child every day, practise their flashcards and write in their reading record so we know that they have read. If you think that your child is ready for new flashcards, please let us know in the reading record.

Thank you so much for keeping your distance from other parents at pick up times. Please ensure that you are arriving at 2:50pm for collection and our drop off time in a morning is 8:55am. Please stick to our allocated time as we can't mix bubbles with year 1 or 2. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a fantastic long weekend,

Natasha Lewis, Tracey Mansfield, Laura Mercurio and the EYFS team