

Dear Parents and carers,

In our literacy this week, we have been learning the sounds 'j', 'v', 'w' and 'x'. 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.

Can they tell you anything that starts with any of these sounds? Can they spot any of these letters or sounds in your home, outside, in books or posters? Can they read any words which contain these letters, and the ones they have previously learnt, such as "jet", "van" etc.? You might also like to play games with your child such as "snap" where they can match the capital and lower case letters.

We have been learning tricky words in phonics too. These are words that are not phonetically plausible so should be learnt by sight. The first set of tricky words we introduce are 'I', 'no', 'go', 'to', 'into' and 'the'. Please practise reading and writing these words at home, ensuring they are spelled correctly.

This week we have been looking at positional language and routes in maths. We used language such as 'behind', 'next to', 'under', 'in front of' etc. Can you hide objects round your house and see if your child can find them by following your directions? Can they hide an object and guide you to it using positional language? They may also want to explain how to find an object by guiding you 'forward' and encouraging you to turn. We made links to maps when exploring positional language. Could your child draw a map of home or school, describing where different places are? Please scribe for your child if they say anything. We would love to see their maps.

This week we have looked at pirate stories. We used these as a stimulus for creative activities as well as to discuss right and wrong. The children made links to our class rules and the expectations we have at school. Can your child draw a picture of how they should sit on the carpet? They could draw a picture of themselves being kind and sharing? We would like to see their pictures if your child completes one.

We have discussed several key events this week. We began the week by discussing Remembrance and had a two minute silence on Wednesday. We gave thanks to the brave soldiers who fought in the war to give us a better life. If your child would like to write a prayer of thanks, we would like to see these to share with the class and for our class prayer books. On Friday, we looked at the Hindu celebration of Diwali. This is happening over the weekend. We read the story of Diwali, discussed the importance of the Diva lamps and Rangoli patterns.

Next week, we will be starting to send home 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

Friday November 13th 2020

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.

Your child will have brought home a 'home learning' book this weekend. There is a grid at the front of the book with a selection of activities for you to complete at home. Please complete one activity per week. We will send the books home on a Friday and collect them in on a Wednesday. Please feel free to adapt the activities to suit your child. Please log in to Google Classroom as soon as possible so that we can check that your child's account is working. We upload some activities linked to our learning each week.

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. If your child has a school meal, please don't send in separate puddings, fruit or juices for lunch time. This confuses the children and can be upsetting for the other children.

MR parents, please be aware that as of next week, week commencing 16th November, your child's PE day will be Thursday, the same day as LR.

A final reminder, 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 the 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 weekend,

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