

Acorn Update – Friday 20th November 2020

Hello there, what a busy week it has been.

This week the children have completed their fourth lesson of Protective behaviours and 'keeping safe'. The children have been keen to discuss feelings, emotions, safe and unsafe secrets and have really understood the key messages. All families new to the school have received a booklet of information and the children who were at school last year, who are building on last year's learning have received a reminder pamphlet. So, the key messages the children have learnt are:

- Network hands – 5 people (in school & out of school) who they feel happy to talk to if they are worried or have their Early Warning Signs*
- Everyone has the right to feel safe all the time – the key message to all children
- Is your fun, fun for everyone? – encouraging children to think about their own behaviour
- Safe and unsafe secrets – the difference between 'telling and not telling'
- Names of private body parts – important that children know the correct terminology
- *Early warning signs – how your body reacts if you are unsure/worried

In maths, the children have been learning about 'counting on using a number line' in addition to last weeks 'counting on using your head and hands'. The focus has been on 'counting efficiently'. Is it more efficient to count on 2 or 5 in these calculations: **5+2 or 2+5**. The children have been learning about **commutativity** (when numbers can be added in any order with the total being the same). Year 1 children have had a go at drawing these additions onto a number line (see below). We did not complete step two or three, so if you would like to try these for homework – please do. The Oak Academy link is: <https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/understanding-commutativity-c5gk8c?step=2&activity=video> which we only watched until 5:33 to learn about counting on using a number line.

Task

Step one: match the equations to their number line.

Step two: match the pairs of equations together. There are 3 pairs.

Step three: choose which of the pair you think is the most efficient method of counting on.

$$8 + 2$$

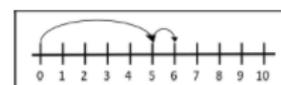
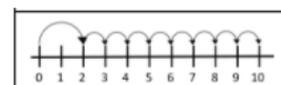
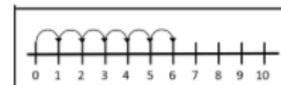
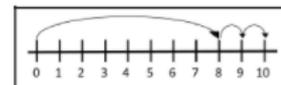
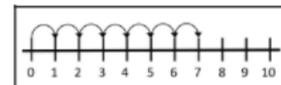
$$7 + 0$$

$$0 + 7$$

$$2 + 8$$

$$1 + 5$$

$$5 + 1$$



In English, the children have been listening to and reading key vocabulary for the story of Rapunzel. They have all be able to say and/or write sentences to retell the beginning, middle and end of the story using pictures for prompts and ideas about what to write.

During PE, the class have been controlling balls using their hands and feet. They had to make sure they were in the right position (one leg in front of the other standing sideways and with their opposite arm, to forward leg, ready to push the ball). The children practised passing the ball to each other and then passing the ball between two cones, to each other. They all did really well.

This week Ms O'Sullivan has joined Acorn class on the 'big screen' for a class story and a whole school achievement assembly. The children loved seeing her and had a good look at all the other children in all the other classes! Some brothers and sisters were also spotted!

Home learning

Year 1 children have been given their spellings for next 6 weeks on a sheet of paper with the test date indicated at the top. Next week the spelling pattern is **ck**, used when a word ends in a 'C or a K' sound (as a general rule) eg, clock, chick, pick

Children in Reception have started to bring home word bags. The children need to segment (say each sound) and blend (merge them together) to read. We are only able to roll out 3 bags each week due to quarantine, so please bear with us. Please can children return these the day after they receive them so we can start their quarantine.

The homework set for this week is:

The usual stuff!

- Read your reading book/to learn your spellings – ck (Year 1)
- Read your word bag words/practise your phonemes – recognising sounds and doing the actions using your phoneme card you have at home. (the last phoneme, on your card, has been taught today – ar')
- Keep practising your number formation & letter formation using your home learning resources. We have loved seeing all the photos of your hard work.

Something a little different!

- Next week we will be investigating **Tunnels**. See if you can find out about any animals, which you know live under the ground and make tunnels. We have some tunnelling creatures who live on the big field and leave mounds of earth on the grass!
- **Purple Mash topic** – I have set a task to design a flag for your own castle. If you prefer to do this in another media, that is absolutely fine (maybe painting, collage, out of Lego ...)
- **Purple Mash maths** – I have set an addition and subtraction quiz. This can be completed with objects to 'add' and 'take away' for children in Reception. **Children in Year 1** should try to use their number track (one can be made if you can't find your school one) to count on

(when adding). Remember that +1 move forward one place and -1, move backwards on place.

Please remember to take any pictures of any home learning and send them to the class email, so we can award house points!

Finally, as I am sure you are aware, I am self-isolating. Although not physically in school, I have already been able to speak to the children in the classroom via the interactive whiteboard, talk with them, look at their learning on whiteboards and read an interactive story to them. I have explained to the class that I am healthy and not poorly, but I am having to stay at home at the moment (so no one feels worried). I also explained that I have set up a classroom at home, so I can continue to teach them, although it is a bit different, it will all be ok and even a bit exciting! Mrs Perkins will be teaching Acorn class on Monday and Wednesday, in addition to her usual Friday, with Mrs Evans to support as usual. On Tuesday and Thursday I will be teaching the children, mainly with an English focus using the 'shared screen' tool on Teams, also being supported as usual by Mrs Evans 'on the ground' as it were! I am of course available to be 'virtually' present each day to work with a group, an individual or indeed the whole class using my Acorn class 'box of tricks!'

I hope this puts minds at rest.

I hope you all have a good weekend

Take care,

Miss Blake