

## Acorn Update – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

We have had another great week in Acorn class with all the children attending all day!

This week we have been learning more about Dinosaurs, by watching *Andy's Dino toy box* on CBeebies. This has helped us to answer some of our questions about dinosaurs. The children have recalled information about which Dinosaurs can swim and how they do this (Spinosaurus). What different Dinosaurs eat and how their bodies are adapted, like the Brachiosaurus and Diplodocus who have long necks, and mouths, which strip the leaves from high branches. The T-Rex, who has sharp teeth and claws for killing and eating meat as a predator. The children have also learnt that Veloci means 'Speed', the reason why the Velociraptor is a fast runner! The children have been able to recall this information to write and draw pictures of the dinosaurs they have been interested in.

In phonics this week we have learnt the actions for the phonemes 'n, ck, e, h, r, d, ' and 'ch'. The children have been revising all their phonemes, together with the actions each day and pointing to the letters which make the sounds. The children have also been singing the song for each phoneme and the year one children have been practising writing all these letters with 'lead on' lines. This is essential for joining. Some children are already starting to join during writing sessions, which is great to see. Please continue to practise the sounds and actions at home (Year 1 still need to practise the correct letter formation – with a lead on and off line).

**Thank you – everyone now has a bag to put their phonics sheets in – some are still a bit small, but we are getting there.**

In maths this week, we have been continuing to learn about 'more than(greater than)/less than (fewer than)' and have been making towers of cubes to order by size. The children in Reception have been playing matching number/object games and counting one object at a time by pointing to it and counting carefully one more. All children have made patterns (repeating if able) using a variety of resources.

In PE the children have begun their personal challenge of running for one minute around a circuit. Each week we will increase the time by 30 seconds to build up stamina. All the children managed this and everyone felt very proud of themselves.

**Spellings:** Next week the focus for year 1 children will be 'th'. Your child will be practising the joined formation of this digraph and be reading and writing words which include 'th'. Please practise the spellings for a test on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

**Maths:** It has been lovely to see lots of maths has been completed on purple mash this week. Maths homework this week is to collect some natural autumn materials like leaves, conkers (may be a bit early?) twigs, rocks etc and then make a repeated pattern. Please encourage accurate counting by touching objects to count one at a time (whilst completing this task). Please send pictures of your repeated pattern to the class email, which is [acorn@sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:acorn@sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk) and we will share them with the class.

**Topic work:** Well done to everyone who has completed a Fossil Fact sheet. They are all fantastic. We have printed them out and they are displayed in the classroom. The children enjoyed listening to all the facts when we read them out, so a real well done to everyone. This week on Purple Mash a 'comparing dinosaurs' activity has been set. You will need to pick two dinosaur pictures and tell an adult about how they are the same or different. Please can adults record what the children say, as last week. We will print these out and display them in the classroom. Many thanks in advance.

**Website: There is some new information on the Acorn class webpage including fun dinosaur facts and a knowledge organiser all about dinosaurs - so make sure you take a look!**

Well done to you all again for another super week - have a great weekend

Miss Blake, Mrs Perkins and Mrs Evans