

## Acorn Update – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Hello, it is good to be back in the classroom and not in a 'virtual' way at last!

Thank you for the communications received whilst isolating, that and the live streaming of some lessons has made the time pass quickly and mean that I have been as involved as much possible with the Little Acorns. Mrs Perkins and Mrs Evans have done brilliant work with class, meaning the children's learning has been uninterrupted, with routines and expectations remaining.

This week, Mrs Perkins has been working with the children to help learn and consolidate recognition, vocabulary and features of 2D and 3D shapes. The children have used art straws and playdough to create their 3D model, some of which are in the end of term newsletter.

In English, the children have been learning new vocabulary linked to the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff, they have listened to and joined in with the many repeated refrains ("Whose that trip-trapping over my bridge) and made puppets to retell the story using their own bridges made from construction materials.

The children enjoyed finding out about Isambard Kingdom Brunel (aided by the Purple Mash homework) and have been looking at structures of bridges and sorting them into groups according to which materials they are made from.

This week has also been exciting because we have been filming our Nativity story 'A king is born'. It has been a bit like being on location! Mrs Perkins has taken the footage away to edit it, so fingers crossed, it will a Nativity to remember!

This week has also been an assessment week and all the children have shown just how much they have learnt since the beginning of the school year. We are feeling proud of all our Little Acorns (and all the home learning which has contributed to their progress and learning – so thank you).

### Home learning

**Year 1 children:** The spellings this week are colours. Encourage your child to segment and blend the sounds for writing eg blue – b l ue and talk with them about ue making the oo sound. This is how we will be supporting the children in school next week as they practise these as part of their morning task. Some of the words (orange, colour) are tricky, so maybe think with your child about ways to remember these spellings, maybe say them how they are spelt (this can be quite funny too!)

**Children in Reception** will continue with word bags (more children are bringing them home due to knowing more phonemes) and some children are starting to bring home reading books.

The homework set for this week is:

### **The usual stuff!**

- Read your reading book/to learn your spellings – colours (Year 1)
- Read your word bag words/practise your phonemes – recognising sounds and doing the actions using your phoneme card you have at home. Try to write them if you would like or write some three letter words such as 'sat pin tin cat' using your phoneme card

(alternatively an adult could say the word at you could point to each letter in order, or put a counter on each letter).

- Practise counting (pointing carefully) the numbers on your number line (up to 20) and see if you can recognise and count them from 20-1.

### Something a little different!

- Next week we will be continuing with the story of The **Three Billy Goats Gruff**, so I have set a Purple Mash activity for you to drop and drag the pictures from the story into the picture box and write a sentence under each one to tell the story (adults please do scribe, unless children would like to type)
- **Purple Mash topic** – I have set a paint activity so you can create a picture from the story too. If you would prefer to use different media at home, then that is great, just don't forget to email a picture of your creation in to Acorn class.
- **Purple Mash maths** – next week we will be learning about place value up to 20 (this means 'how' numbers are made eg 16 is one ten and 6 ones (units in my day!). I have set two activities to help the children become familiar with the numbers up to 100. These are **Missing numbers** (on a number line) and **Number chart patterns** (100 square). All the children are familiar with the *number line* format and they all have a *100 square* in their trays at school, which they use. The children may need support to count and identify the numerals needed to answer the questions. Some questions may be challenging for some children, so just see how you get on. If you click on the square at the bottom of the Purple Mash screen, on in activity, it will enlarge!!
- **Finally, it will be Christmas jumper day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, so I have set a task to design a Christmas jumper!! Please wear a Christmas jumper to school on Friday 11<sup>th</sup>, if you would like to as it is also Christmas lunch day!!**

I hope you all have a good weekend and the fun begins again on Monday!

Take care,

Miss Blake