

## Acorn Update – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

It has been lovely to see most of the children dressed in stripes or spots today to support Children in Need. We spent some time this morning learning about how this charity supports children and families. The children were all very sensible and were able to talk about different families.

This week we have been learning about the feature of castles, such as the battlements, the moat, the portcullis and the bailey. The children have looked at lots of pictures and have drawn their own castles, which have included these features. Many of the children's pictures contained 'arrow slots' and flags as well! Some children have been able to label parts of a castle using key vocabulary.

We have continued with the story of Jack and the Beanstalk this week and the children have written about the middle and the end of the story. All the children worked hard using their phoneme cards and the tricky word cards displayed to make their writing 'even better'.

In maths, the children have continued to learn about addition and have developed their own 'addition stories'. These were then translated into the Part – Whole diagram by the children. The children have also been learning about 'counting on' using a 'number line' and by using their 'head and hands'. The idea is that children pat their head to say the 'start' number and then 'count on' using their fingers eg 5+4 would be 'put 5 in your head' (tap your head) and 'show 4 fingers, then count on – 6 7 8 9'.

This week we have started our work on Protective Behaviours, which supports the children's understanding of being safe and making sure their 'fun is fun for everyone'. The children who are new to the school will be bringing home some parent information on Monday about what we teach and how to support the children at home.

### 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 **ss/zz**. The children have been learning about **Plurals** this week in their grammar lesson. Please can children bring in their reading books and diaries everyday so they can be changed or used to hear your child read.

**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 children will bring home bag 1 to 18 over next term or so. The children will also be bringing home reading books as they become confident in recognising tricky words (words which cannot be decoded eg was, the, I, some, come etc). A helpful video will be posted on the class page (during next week) to show how word bags should be read.

The homework set for this week is:

- Read your reading book/to learn your spellings – ss/zz (Year 1)

- Read your word bag words/practise your phonemes – recognising sounds and doing the actions using your phoneme card you have at home. (we only have a few more to learn now)
- Practise your number formation so that all the numbers are facing the right way!
- Build a tower out of anything you can find as next week we will be looking at amazing towers from around the world (you could even try and find some pictures of towers from around the world which you think look amazing!)

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

Have a good weekend

Miss Blake & Mrs Evans