

Acorn Update – Friday 6th November 2020

It has been lovely to welcome all the little Acorns back this week. They have all settled back into school and all seem happy to be back with their friends.

Our new topic of 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets' has already been a great success with the children and they have been sharing what they already know and what they would like to find out about during the half term. The children have been busy creating their own castles and towers using lots of different construction equipment, with some children making towers taller than them!

In Acorn class, the children have been listening to, making story maps of and writing sentences to retell the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. During the week, the children have also discussed the importance of not walking behind animals, how loud chickens are when they are laying eggs and that stealing is wrong! So, an interesting time has been had!

In maths, the children have been using their new '10 bead strings' to help them count and problem solve using addition. We continue to use the part- whole method.

Today the children have enjoyed dressing up in their 'Castle' costumes and have been drawing and describing their characters, completing their own Knight and Castles activity booklets and completing a 'Defend and attack' assault course challenge in the playground. They have been using hoops, beanbags and floor ladders to recreate manoeuvring across a moat, through the huge door, around the fire pit etc .

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 double I (II). The children have been learning about short and long vowels this week and using 'a/an' before nouns. Please can children continue to practise the skills of reading taught and learnt at school by reading their home reading books with an adult. It is really important that a comment is written to help us see how the children are getting on and if a new book is needed.

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 - II (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)
- Create a picture/model of a castle – a Purple Mash option has been set
- Addition up to 20 – Purple Mash. Please use a number line (one will be sent home today) to practise 'counting on' to find the answers. If you would like to add using objects please do. You can read the additions to your child and show then the numeral to type in for the answers if needed.

An ICT questionnaire has also been given to all Reception children to be completed by adults at home. Please could these be returned by Friday 12th November, as they will form part of our assessment and tracking materials.

Many thanks for your continued support and kindness

Miss Blake & Mrs Evans