

Termly Newsletter

25th October 2013



Acorn



Acorn

Note from teacher

What a busy half-term we have had; I cannot believe how quickly the time has passed. The children get on so well as a class and are a very enthusiastic about their learning.

I hope you are all pleased with how your child has settled in; the children seem ready for the half-term break, but they seem to be coping extremely well with attending school full-time. We wish you a lovely half term holiday and look forward to seeing the children on Tuesday 5th November ready for a very busy time leading up to Christmas.

Mrs Speed and Selina

Literacy

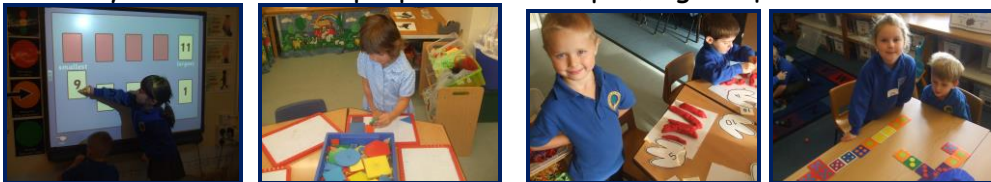
The children have been working really hard to develop their writing skills in their first few weeks at school. They have enjoyed writing both independently and in adult led sessions. The children are trying really hard to use the correct formation when writing their name and other simple words. After the holidays we will be starting 'Handwriting Challenge' which will encourage the children to practice their letter formation both at home and at school. There will be more information to follow about this after the holidays.



Mathematics

The children have enjoyed a range of mathematical activities this half term. We have been working on number recognition, using language such as 'more' or 'less' to compare 2 numbers, counting up to 10 or 20 using 1-1 correspondence.

We have also been developing the children's shape recognition skills and the use of descriptive vocabulary to describe the properties of shapes, e.g. a square has 4 corners.



PE

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our dance and gymnastic sessions in PE this half term. We have been focusing on different ways of travelling and the children have been practising four main shapes; tuck, screw, star and pin. Why don't you see if your child could demonstrate these shapes to you. The children have been working very creatively to find different ways of holding these shapes.

Phonics



The children have made fantastic progress with their phonic work in such a short space of time. They are enjoying learning a new letter sound each day and love learning the songs and actions that go with each sound. We have also begun to blend words with the help of Mr Crow our puppet who speaks in 'sound talk'; the children are very good at hearing the sounds and then putting them together to make a word.

The sounds for the first week back after half term will be;

Monday- **ee** Tuesday- **or** Wednesday- **z** Thursday- **w**

Planning to Play

The children continue to enjoy 'Planning to Play' activities and are demonstrating they can be great independent learners! The activities provided in the classroom are carefully chosen to help extend the children's learning as well as considering the children specific interests. We have found lots of the children have been repeating activities they have enjoyed in adult led sessions and are demonstrating their fantastic abilities across the Foundation Stage Curriculum.



'Knights and Castles'

The children have really enjoyed the 'Knights and Castles' topic this term. In the last few weeks we have been learning about the features of different types of castles and drawing pictures of them. We will be continuing with the topic in the first few weeks following half term before moving onto our next topic.

Class Assembly

The children have been practising for their class assembly this week. Some of the children will be bringing words home to practise and all children will be bringing home notes about costumes. Please let us know if you need any help with costume ideas as we have a few items at school.

Notices

-  **Class Acorn assembly**-  8th November
- **School photographer**- 12th November
- **Book Fair** - 6th - 13th November
- **Class Acorn Christmas Play** - 13th December (9.05am)

Have a lovely half term!