



Name _____

Merry Christmas



Well Done everyone

It has been a pleasure to see the children succeed in their learning this term. They have made very good progress from their starting points and have worked really hard to develop their skills in all areas.

We look forward to working with the children and you again next term for what looks to be an exciting term.

Please find attached an assessment sheet that we have carried out with your child this week. We ask that you celebrate your child's achievements with them and if you are able, revisit the letter sounds that your child is unsure of and also look at the numbers that your child doesn't yet recognise within the 1-20 range. If your child knows all of their letter sounds and numbers, extend them by working on spelling some of the words on the reverse of this sheet and revisiting practical addition and subtraction with numbers in the 1-20 range. Thank you.

Topic news

We have had a discussion with the children to launch our topic next term which will be entitled, 'Once Upon a Time.'

This topic will allow us to explore fairy tales and other well-known stories and as well as developing oracy skills, will allow the children to extend their writing skills and to learn about exploring story characters and settings. We will also be working on comparative work in Maths as we focus on practical measuring linked to stories and work on ordering, estimating and comparing numbers. Opportunities for developing science skills will be developed through the stories we study. During our work on The 3 Little Pigs we will look at materials and carry out investigative work and through learning about Jack and the Beanstalk, we will learn about growth and conditions for plant growth.

Christmas Maths

This week we have been using the topmarks website and have worked on pattern work and symmetry. The following links are useful in reinforcing this work.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/christmas-patterns>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/symmetry/symmetry-matching>

Phonics reinforcement.

During our daily phonic sessions we sometimes play games to help reinforce the children's knowledge of a particular sound. A website that we use that you may like to look at with your child is

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

On this website you will find a range of games which allow you to revisit sounds we have taught the children in the classroom. Popular games with the children at the moment are 'Obb and Bob' and 'Buried Treasure.'

Handwriting

We have continued to teach the children the entry stroke to our pre-cursive script and as you work with your child, please remind them to start from the 'baseline' and to go 'up the hill' every time they form an entry stroke.

This week our focus letter has been 'k'.

Please work with your child on forming this letter and use the following vocabulary,

'Up the big hill, down the long ladder, half way back up, kick out, come in, kick out.'

By using this language, you will reinforce our work at school and help your child form their letters.

Encourage your child to use a range of tools. If they find manipulating smaller tools difficult at this time, perhaps work with water and paintbrushes in the garden, or paint and paint brushes on large sheets of paper. Rainbow writing is also fun, so a range of colourful felt tips or colouring pencils could be used.

Thank you.

Tricky Words

In our phonics lessons we have continued to teach the children their tricky words.

We explain that these are words that cannot be sounded out, but that you learn by 'sight.' These are the words that we have worked on so far.

the	to	I
no	go	into
he	she	we
me	be	was
you	they	all
are	my	her
said	have	like
so	do	some

Parents in Partnership Letters on our website

Just to let you know, if you ever misplace a Parents in Partnership newsletter, they are all available on the school website. Just go to <http://www.staugustine.s.dorset.sch.uk/website/reception/3032>

Thank you.

Phonics and Word blending

Please note that this week we have added the letters 'z' and 'q' to your child's phonics book. Please spend time looking at all the letters in the phonics books we have so far taught.

s	a	t	p	i	n	m
d	g	o	c	k	e	u
f	r	h	b	l	j	v
w	x	y	z	q	ch	sh

The words below are words containing v and w that you could help your child decode using their 'robot' arms.'

Chip	chop	chat	chin
shop	shed	ship	shock
rich	hush		

Please cut off and return this slip to school. Thank you.

My child's response to the tasks.