



Saplings Class

8th September 2017

Welcome back to the new school year. All of the children have settled well and have been very enthusiastic with their learning this week and have bonded well as a class. We are sure that this will continue.

Over the next few weeks we will be covering the following areas.

Maths

Year 1 – read, write and order numbers to 20. Count reliably to 20. Add and subtract one digit numbers. Recognise coins and compare lengths and heights.

Year 2 - read, write and order numbers to 100. Count reliably to 100. Add and subtract two digit numbers. Recognise coins and compare lengths and heights.

English

Over the next few weeks we will be using alphabet books such as 'Dr. Seuss's ABC' and 'My First ABC' by Shirley Hughes to remember the alphabet, as well as write alliterative sentences. We will be thinking of ways to write interesting sentences, acting as different characters from books and creating story maps using stories with bear characters. In our Handwriting lessons we will be revising all of the letters of the alphabet. We will be concentrating on forming each letter correctly. During Guided Reading we will be exploring stories and thinking about how an author uses descriptive words. The children will visit the school library every Thursday to select a book to take home.

Topic

Our Topic in the Autumn term is Animal Habitats. It would be great if you could encourage your child to think about animals big and small, where they live and why they live there. We shall even be turning our role play area in to a bear cave! We will also be looking at castles in History and hope to organise a trip to a local castle.

Homework

We will not be setting specific homework for a couple of weeks to allow the children to settle into the new routines, however we would like you to encourage your child to read regularly and practise spellings when they are sent home. Please make a comment on your child's reading in the record book: any child who brings in a signed Reading Record book will be awarded a team point. We will give your child an opportunity to change their reading books regularly but it is important that your child is confident reading the text and can discuss the book before changing it. When homework is given it will be sent out on a Wednesday and expected back on the following Monday. Reading Passports will be sent home on Wednesday 13th September. The children have 6 weeks to complete the listed challenges. When they have completed a challenge they should bring the passport into school to receive a sticker. The deadline for handing in completed Passports is Monday 16th October.

Learning Buddies

Saplings Class have two cuddly toys, Billy and Bob, which will be sent home with two children each week. The children can teach them anything from Maths, writing, cooking or sports skills. Please encourage your child to 'teach' the buddy the task and record this in writing, pictures or photographs in the accompanying book, ready for them to show the rest of the class when the buddy comes back to school. The buddies will go home on a Wednesday and come back to school on a Monday. All the children will have an opportunity to take the buddies home.

Lastly, we would like to issue a plea for any cushions or blankets that are no longer needed in order to make our book corner a much more cosy and comfortable area to enjoy a book in.

Many thanks

Mrs Swansborough and Miss Ellis