

Year R Spring Term 1 Curriculum Newsletter

11th January 2019

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year and to hope that you all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas break. Thank you so much for all the Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes - we were quite overwhelmed by your generosity and thoughtfulness.

The first topic for this half term is 'Adventure Bay'. During this topic we helping Paw Patrol help solve problems by finding the correct people to help them. We are looking forward to meeting different members of our community who help us, and we would be very grateful if anyone who works for any public service, and is prepared to come and talk to the children about their occupation, would contact their child's teacher. In science, we will be investigating 'push and pull' forces, and looking at how we can move different emergency vehicles to help the people of Lazy Town. We will be making our own emergency vehicles using cardboard boxes, thank you for the cardboard boxes we have already received for this.

Our second topic, 'Pirates', leads on from 'Adventure Bay' as we go on an adventure to recover something very precious. During this topic we will be making maps, following them and exploring islands! We will be holding an exciting Pirate Day on **Tuesday 12th February**, when the children will be invited to dress as a pirate all day! Our Celebration event will also be at **2:50pm** on



Thursday 14th February where you will see a video of the children's Hospital Day.



We are continuing to focus our phonic sessions on learning letter sounds and the formation of each letter shape, and we are beginning to learn digraph sounds. These are pairs of letters that join together to form a new sound- for example **s** and **h** join together to form the new sound **sh**. We will continue to send home sound flash cards for you to practise at home. Alongside sound recognition, please practise putting your letter sounds together to read the words on word strips we send home each week.

The children are really enjoying reading and sharing their books with us. Please remember to have your child's reading book and reading record book in their book bag every day. This allows us to hear them read on a regular basis. We would also really appreciate if you could write a short comment in your child's reading record book each week. It can be as simple as a smiley face to say you have read the book or a written comment as to how they have done. A small request from us - please keep giving us lots of **Wow moments** as your contribution to your children's learning story is very important to us.



In writing we will continue to strengthen the children's hand control through activities such as cutting, tracing, threading, pegging objects and handwriting patterns. As each child is ready we will begin to teach them how to form their letters correctly as we revise the letter sounds. Please refer to your copy of the school print script to help your child when necessary.

In Maths we will continue to build on the children's understanding of numbers, through writing, ordering and using numbers to 10 and beyond. We will also introduce addition as combining two objects and relate subtraction to taking away. The children will be taught these concepts through practical activities ensuring they understand the processes and use the correct vocabulary. If your child finds it tricky to recognise or form their numbers with you, please continue to practise this at home. You might spy numbers in the environment when walking (house numbers or car registrations are useful tools) or try writing them using different materials.



Finally we would like to thank you for all your help and support last term, we thought the children looked wonderful in the Christmas production, so thank you for all your preparation!

Yours sincerely,

Sally Hillier
Squirrel Class



Nita Hearne
Otter Class



Arabelle Dunne
Hedgehog Class

