



MARTON-CUM-GRAFTON CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Class 1 News

29th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done to **Jemima** (Reception) and **Jessie** (Nursery), they are our **Class 1 Superstars** this week. Jemima is a really busy learner and she uses her imagination to think up and then create some amazing items, ranging from paper dresses and accessories to a puppet theatre! She has added to this with her super early writing skills, well done Jemima. Jessie has settled into nursery life in Class 1 so well and always joins in with our activities so happily and sensibly. Keep it up, superstars!

It is lovely to see some really busy writers in our class. This week our **Writer of the Week** certificate was presented to **Eva S.** During her independent play and learn time Eva has drawn and put into words her lovely ideas about a mummy and baby mouse and their mouse house. The other children loved hearing Eva's story. Fabulous!

This week we have continued to think about the story of **Noah** and the special boat he built. Linked to this we have talked about our whole school theme of '**responsibility**' and making good choices. The children shared ideas about the animals that would have been on the ark and how we can look after animals too.

We have continued to explore **colour** and the children suggested colours that we associate with Autumn. They chose paint colours in browns, oranges, reds and yellows to make patterns of fruit and vegetable printing which they did whilst also sharing ideas about **Harvest**.

Our nursery learners have concentrated on the colour **yellow** and so have been keeping a particular eye out for things that are yellow in our environment, as well as exploring other colours too. They have also been looking out for our new 'shape of the week' which is a **triangle**. Can they spot any triangles at home?

In phonics sessions, Reception children have been practising their blending and segmenting skills as well as learning new letters and sounds **i, n, m** and **d**.

We have also combined these with the sounds we learned last week so that we could build the small but very common words **in, it, an, at, am** and some children also blended the magnetic letters to read words such as pan, tin, sat, nit.

Our maths times have been linked to our learning about colour. We used the computer program **2Graph** to represent our favourite colour, out of a choice of four colours, as a bar chart on the interactive whiteboard screen. We then extended the choices and made a second graph on paper. We used these to talk about **more, less, fewer, most and least**, as well as to count how many. We also continue to practise number recognition and we have particularly been practising the formation of **number 4**.

Those of you who came along to the school Sharing Assembly last Friday will have seen the children demonstrating one of the wake up, shake up routines which we use each day after taking the register.

ASPIRE • BELIEVE • ACHIEVE

We sing and dance along to a little routine to get our bodies and brains ready for the day ahead. Perhaps your child could show you a bit at home!

Reception Readers

This week all Reception children have chosen an extra 'take-home' book to supplement their school reading book. These are chosen from a selection of texts that the children enjoy sharing in school, with the intention that they can be shared at home. Please don't panic and think your child should be reading the words! You could read the text, perhaps as a bedtime book, and talk about what has happened so far, what might happen next and whether or not your child enjoyed it. In addition, you could also ask your child if they can point out any letters and sounds they recognise, or even any whole words, or see if they can hear any rhyming words in the book. We will encourage your child to change this book each **Thursday ('library day')**, but if you would like a different book in between as a change to their school reading book then they may swap the 'take-home' book more often. Nursery children are also very welcome to choose a school library book to share at home and bring back to school and we will be making arrangements for them to have a regular change day starting in the next week or so.

Special Requests

☺ It may seem rather early in the year, but, in an effort to ensure timely delivery of orders, The Friends of Marton cum Grafton School are going to be ensuring that all children produce a Christmas card design to be sent away and 'published' for you to order in packs ready for Christmas. The Friends are, quite simply, amazing in their efforts and are looking for a couple of extra volunteers to come and help with this particular endeavour next Thursday, during the school day. For more information or to confirm that you can help please speak to Bianca Gaspar-Dunn, -mum of Sebastian (Y4) and Oliver (Y1), or email The Friends at martonfriends@gmail.com

☺ If you happen to be out and about collecting autumnal 'things', we would be very grateful if you could pick up some extra conkers, dry leaves and pine cones to donate for the children to use in Class 1. Such items are great for our maths learning, creative activities and can also be used by the children to enhance their play in many other areas.

☺ We would like to appeal for smaller items of 'junk' for the children to use in their modelling. We are frequently in need of more cereal boxes, other small cardboard boxes, plastic food trays, plastic bottles and lids, cardboard tubes (but not toilet roll middles), yoghurt pots and egg cartons. So, please do send in such items, making sure they are cleaned out so that the children can use them straight away.

Thank you!

Dates for your diaries:

Monday 2nd October: Reception Stay, Play and Learn Together, until 10.30am

Find out about how we approach phonics, reading and writing in an informal meeting, followed by the chance to join your child's playing and learning time in the classroom until just before 10.30am. If you are only able to come for part of the session then you are still very welcome! Please sign up in the class entrance.

Tuesday 3rd October: Whole School Harvest Festival, 9.15am

Our Nursery children will stay in school, but the Reception children will be walking to the church together and hope to be singing along to a song we have been enjoying.

We can't quite believe we are already at the end of September! Enjoy your weekend.

Best wishes from

Mrs Williams and The Early Years Team