



MARTON-CUM-GRAFTON CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Class 1 News

3rd November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done to our newest Class 1 Superstars! This week we presented the Reception certificate to **Frederick** for always being helpful and enthusiastic in his learning, as well as for the way he was able to clearly explain how he solved a number problem finding less. Our Nursery certificate was presented to **Sienna**, who has settled in so nicely, trying out lots of different activities and always being willing to have a go at new opportunities.

Our '**Writer of the Week**' certificate was given to **Meg** because of the way she thought about news she wanted to share and then used her super phonic skills to carefully segment words and use the letters for the sounds she could hear to write out her idea.

This week we have been looking for signs of and sharing our ideas about **Autumn**. The children enjoyed cutting into and scooping out the insides of a **pumpkin**. They had to use their fine motor skills to rescue all the seeds which we are saving to use in creative area. There was some super language as children talked about what they could see, feel and smell and even – when slopping the insides on to the tray – hear!

They have also been thinking about **spiders** and the beautiful, individual webs they create. We had a go at drawing and making our own webs. The reception children realised they had to concentrate carefully and take their time to make sure the lines they were drawing all crossed over the same centre point. Our nursery learners had a sticky time cutting and positioning their own webs using paper straws.

We have also been thinking about **Bonfire Night** and the children have found out some tips for keeping safe if they are out and about enjoying bonfires and firework displays. They have explored fireworks through art and craft.

Our planning is very much led by the children's interests and curiosities but we do also like to have areas of focus to help us to ensure the delivery of skills teaching. This half-term we will be sharing a **number of the week** and **rhyme of the week** with our nursery children. We have looked at the **number 1** this week, how it looks, how it is written and how we can make it with objects. Our rhyme of the week has been **Incey Wincey Spider**. Is your child able to sing the rhyme with you at home? The whole class have been singing the rhyme (and some variations of it) and looking for spiders, both real and toy spiders.

The Reception children practised their 'tricky words' **the, I, to, no** and **go**. We have been reading and writing the words. We have also concentrated on our new sounds **j, v, w** and **x**. We have

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been using our phonic knowledge to read some rather silly questions to play a 'yes/no' game. The children also used their phonic skills to share an idea in writing. Children came up with ideas of interest to them and so wrote about all sorts of things from spooky dressing up outfits, eating lots of sweets, people in their family and the story of Incey Wincey.

Our maths learning in Reception has concentrated on **numbers to 20** and counting sets of objects. We looked at patterns in the way objects are set out as a means of helping us work out the total amount. Some children have also been taking objects away to find less. The reception children continue to have a numeral focus each week and this week we continued with **number 8**. This obviously linked in quite nicely with a spidery interest. We also realised we can write it by starting with an s shape.

We have all been enjoying the outdoor area, setting up guttering for water play, enjoying some big sounds on our work in progress 'wall of sounds', dressing up, chalking on our new boards and the playground and making treasure maps.

Thank you for all the half-term challenge cards that have been returned. We hope you didn't find it too onerous and that much of what was on the list was incidental in your shared experiences. It was lovely to chat to hear more details from the children and they were all pleased to get their stickers and stamps.

A note from home

All children will be bringing home our 'a note from home' paper slips. Please do fill them in and return to us at school when you get a chance. You are welcome to fill the page or just write a really short note. It's great for us to hear about the things your children enjoy and get up to out of school, whether that be organized clubs and events they take part in or the fact they have done something for the first time such as ride their bike or telling you a funny joke!

Show and Tell

As a means of enhancing the children's Communication and Language skills and Personal, Social and Emotional Development, we would like to start holding 'show and tell' sessions with the children each Friday. Our first 'show and tell' theme will be '**something I find interesting**'. Please don't panic, this could be a photo, book, a souvenir, an item they have found when out about, a toy or something else and the children will just be asked to say what they have brought in and why they chose it. As you know, we normally ask that children do not bring toys in from home, however, if they would like to bring a toy for this purpose then they can do, but it will not be allowed out at any time other than show and tell and so must be given to a member of a staff first thing in the morning and it will be kept in our 'show and tell box' in a safe place, the same rule applies to any other chosen item.

We will be timetabling for around three children to lead their show and tell each session and so will send a note home on Monday with those children we would like to start us off.

Dates for your Diaries

Wednesday 8th November: Parent – Teacher appointments (please do check on the list on our board if you can't remember the time, or let me know if you need to make an alternative arrangement.

Wednesday 20th November: Drop-in parent/Key Worker Dialogue afternoon for Nursery parents.

Tuesday 12th /Wednesday 13th December: Key Stage 1 Nativity Play, featuring EYFS (Nursery and Reception) – details will follow.

Date to be confirmed, asap: Class 1 (Nursery and Reception) Stay, Play and Learn session – Christmas songs and crafts.

Have a safe and happy Bonfire Weekend!

Mrs Williams and The Early Years Team

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