

# Curriculum update

21/1/22

## Welcome back!

Welcome back everyone, we hope you all had a wonderful Christmas (although it seems like a lifetime ago now). We are so glad to be back in our classroom and the children have made the transition back in the classroom really well and have been so sensible throughout our moves between different spaces.

We have spent the past few weeks learning about toys from the past. We have compared old and new toys and seen how they have changed through the years. The children have loved comparing the toys and thinking about how they are different from our toys that we play with.

## Phonics and reading

The children have worked hard with their phonics this term and we have started to move onto sound that are made up of two letters e.g. 'ch' 'sh' 'th'. These sounds are helping us to start reading longer words which is helping us to read more sentences. We have seen such a huge boost in children's reading, thank you for all of your support from home by sharing lots of stories.

We are also working really hard on our tricky words, which are words that can only be read by sight and can't be sounded out. We are working through Phase 2 and Phase 3 tricky words (which are on the class page of our website) and any support with these at home would be great too.

## Key information

**Forest School** - every Friday. Our Forest School will now take place every Friday and not Monday. Please make sure that children are wearing suitable clothes and please send extra layers. We have had lots of cold fingers or toes over the past few weeks. We would advise you to wear jogging bottoms/leggings and not jeans as they are not warm enough, especially when wet. Please also ensure they are wearing extra layers and have warm jumpers.

**Irish dancing** - every Thursday. This will now be back on Thursdays with Jack, which I know the children will really be looking forward to.

Ms Grainger will be joining us from the 24<sup>th</sup> January and is a student from University of Worcester and she will be with us until March.

## Timeline

We collected some old bears/dolls from different adults in school and we were fascinated to see how different they all were. We started off with our own class bear, Rainbow Bear, and we even had a bear that was 100 years old. We compared all of the bears and then found out how old they were. We used a 100 square to compare the ages of each bear and where they would fit on the timeline. The children used the timeline we had made together to make their own. We had lots of different variations made: using duplo, drawn on paper, using number cards, using puppets.

## Maths

The children have 'wowed' us with their Maths knowledge this term and we have been applying our knowledge to find the total of groups. We have used our skill of subitising to identify how many there are in each group/set and then using this to help us to work out what the total is. The children's mental maths skills have been fantastic and alongside this we have been using resources in the classroom too. We have used 5 frames and 10 frames to collect objects and then help us to identify how many we have altogether. The children now know how to use the spaces on 5 and 10 frame to help them work out the total, as well as counting the objects on the frames.