

On Monday 11th May, we are visiting Madley Environmental Centre. Please ensure that your child has a packed lunch with two drinks and one snack. Please ensure they are wearing their old, warm Forest School clothes. This will be taking place in school time but please arrive promptly to school on Monday so we can leave on time.

Please check your Parent Mail app as we have sent more information regarding a contribution towards this visit and payment is made via the app. If you are unsure/need support with this please contact the office.

Please keep an eye on the weather over the weekend and ensure your child is dressed appropriately as we will be outside for the whole time. We can't wait!

Worms, snails and slugs

We have loved learning about worms over the past week. The children have gained so much information about worms and together we have learnt lots of new facts. We have continued to look after our worms in our Worm World. Thank you for worms that were coming in from home (and sorry if it caused any late night digging in the garden, when it came to putting the worms in the Worm World everyone seemed reluctant to part with their new friends).

This week we have been learning about slugs and snails and comparing them to the minibeasts we have learnt about so far. We are finding that they are all so different. We have found out that some have backbones making them vertebrates and some have no backbones making them invertebrates.

Maths

We are still working hard with numbers beyond 10. We have focused on what happens to numbers when we are working beyond 10. We have looked at 11-20 and found out that in teen numbers the '1' represents one '10' not a number '1' e.g. 14 is $10 + 4$ and 16 is $10 + 6$. We have practiced this lots using numicon keeping the 10 piece of numicon and adding the smaller piece to make our teen numbers. We have also used the numicon to identify the pattern and have noticed that when we are counting the numbers are getting bigger by adding one. We have been looking at the links between 2, 12, 22, 32 etc and what stays the same and what is different.

Reading and phonics

The children have continued to make progress in their phonics. We have spent time re-capping our vowel digraphs, which are two vowel sounds e.g. 'ai' 'oa' 'ee'. These are often found in the middle or the end of words and allow children to explore words when they have a greater understanding. The key to phonics is lots of regular practice which can be done through regular reading with an adult as well as segmenting and blending practice.

I have added a 'Phonics Mat' into the learning guidance area of our class page. All children have learnt Phase 2 and are working within Phase 3. Phase 5 sounds are worked on in Year 1 but there may be the odd one your child might be reading due to their books.

There are also tricky words within the learning guidance page too. If you can, print these at home and stick them around your home to practice and make it into a game e.g. jump up the stairs and read each one that is on the step or lay them out in each place at the dinner table. If you don't have a printer you can make little cards. I will add this as a challenge in Seesaw and you can respond via Seesaw using pictures etc.

A few reminders

The weather is hugely unpredictable so we are asking that you please ensure your child is still bringing their coat to school. This doesn't have to be their big winter coat but something just in case of the odd shower.

A warm welcome to our new friend James who joined us on Monday. The children have loved getting to know their new friend and sharing our classroom and school with him. We have all had some 'firsts' together this week as we are now sharing the playground with Year One and sharing the hall at lunch time too. Although slightly territorial to begin with, the children are now getting used to sharing the spaces and equipment and are enjoying playing with other children. The children are getting used to the new routines and have adapted really well so far, well done everyone!

All children that are 4 are eligible for free school milk. When children turn 5, there is a small cost. Lots of children have now turned/are turning 5 so there is less milk. Normally, we let all children have milk, but now there is less coming we are starting to just have to let 4 year olds and the children that are paying. If you would like your child to continue to have milk please contact the office and fill out the form.