

Curriculum update

19/10/20

Independent children

We have loved seeing all of the children completing the challenges at home. We share any photos or videos that are sent in with one another in the classroom and the children love seeing themselves on the 'big screen'. There is a new challenge listed below and this will be our last challenge before half term.

Weekly challenge – This week's challenge is based around manners and using a knife and fork at the table at lunchtime. We have noticed that some of the children are really struggling to hold both a knife and fork at the same time and use them to eat their lunch.

Therefore, we would love to see photos and videos of the children using their knife and fork whilst eating their dinner at the table at home. This could include: cutting up their own food, using the correct utensils and not talking with their mouthful.

Similarly to last week this isn't a beat the timer challenge but this is something that is really important in school. Good Luck! Please send any photos/videos of your achievements to admin@madley.hereford.sch.uk.

Reading – IMPORTANT FOR THIS WEEK

As we are approaching half term, our reading schedule will differ for this week only. This week please return your child's book on **Wednesday** which we will then quarantine ready to give new books on **Friday**. This will then mean that the children will have a new book to share over half term. Your child may start to come home with books with words or letters and at some point two books. Please remember to bring your books back on the same day so that we can continue to keep the flow of the books.

The end to our first half term...

We have had such a fantastic half term and feel that the children have settled in brilliantly. They now understand our daily routine and have loved getting to grips and trying lots of different things. The first Monday back (2nd November 2020) will be Forest School as normal so please wear Forest School Clothes. We will also continue with PE on Wednesday and Irish Dancing on Thursday. We are hoping to arrange a few more local visits after half term too and we will inform you of any details as soon as possible.

Smallest natural history museum

We had a lovely morning spent with Tim learning and exploring at the 'Smallest natural history museum'. The children asked lots of questions about the different things Tim had to show us including: animal skulls, seeds, shells, animal skins, bird's wings and lots more. The children asked some brilliant questions to find out more information about what Tim had to share. We were also allowed to look through the microscope at the legs of a dragonfly and flies too. I will add some pictures to the website to share our experience with you. Tim was really impressed with the children's behaviour and how sensible they were looking at the artefacts and objects.

Phonics

We have made huge strides with our phonics and the children are working really hard to begin to blend words together. We have played lots of games to recognise initial sounds to ensure that the children can hear that first sound. We have then been chopping small two and three letter words up and putting them back together again.

Currently we have learnt the sounds 's' 'a' 't' 'p' 'i' 'n' 'm' 'd' 'g' 'o' 'c' 'k' and this week we will learn 'e' 'u' 'r'. We will then re-cap all of these sounds after half term before teaching any new sounds. Over half term, you could have a go at building small words using the sounds that we have learnt.

Maths

Within Maths we have focused on numbers 0-4 and have spent time understanding how these numbers can be made, what they look like and what happens when you add one more or take one away. We use the Numberblocks alongside our Maths learning in the classroom and the children really love the characters. Over the holidays, can the children create their own Numberblocks?

Black History Month

October is Black History month and it's something I think is important that we share with the children. We have shared with them about Rosa Parks and the bus boycott. We talked about whether we think Rosa should've given up her seat on the bus or not. The children thought really carefully using their values and although she was 'breaking a rule' the children were starting to understand why she did it and the reason that breaking that particular rule was okay.