

Curriculum update

30/11/20

Independent children...

Trust has been a very important value we have been working towards over the last week and we have loved seeing moments of trust at home too. These values are really important to us as a school and something we are always encouraging the children to uphold in all situations.

This week's challenge is focusing on determination and resilience. It requires the parent/carer to spot the child demonstrating these values when completing a task at home without necessarily being asked e.g. continuing to sound out words in their story even if they are struggling. The other tasks have required the children to physically do something whereas the focus this week is not to give up even when something is hard! It is something we are trying our best with in the classroom too. Can't wait to hear all about it!

Reading

The children have been working really hard with their phonics and they are applying all of their knowledge when they're reading books and words. I have had an opportunity to talk with lots of parents/carers and lots of people have expressed that their child is struggling to blend words together. Segmenting/sounding out is when the word is broken down sound by sound and the blending of a word is when the sounds are put together to be able to read the word. Blending is always much harder and takes a lot longer and lots of practice! Using the pictures as clues can help the children, as well as re-reading the whole sentence and checking if the word fits to make the sentence accurate. These are all skills that contribute to being good and competent readers.

Please can we ask that all reading books are returned every Friday. It is really hard to share the right book with children if we haven't had them all back in. As the children are now beginning to read more, you may find that two books come home with your child but this won't be able to continue if we don't get books back.

Toys

The children had lots of questions about old toys and how toys have changed. We have enjoyed looking at how toys have changed over time and how different the toys we play with are compared to older toys. The children were really keen to make their own. We thought about how we would make some and what we would need to do so. We found that some older toys were made from wood and now they are made from plastic. We looked at the game 'cup and ball' and compared how it had changed before making our own. The children were trusted to make their own holes in the bottom of the cups as well as threading the string through. There were lots of skills that we had to practice as well as showing determination and resilience when it became a little hard. I hope the children were able to show off their cup and ball game when they got home and their jack in the box too!

School photographs

We had lots of fun having our photographs taken last week. The children listened carefully to the instructions and behaved brilliantly! You should have received a card with the photograph details which will enable you to access the photos when they are ready.

Maths

Last week in Maths we focused on identifying more or less by playing lots of number games. The children had to select a number card that was hidden and the winner was the biggest number. This promoted lots of conversation about how we knew which was bigger or smaller and how we could change the number by adding or taking away. We then changed the winner to the smallest number just in case anyone was cheating!